MARVEL

THE WORLD'S TASTIEST SUPER HERO!

the AMAZING SPIDER-MAN®

LIZARD

NO TURNING BACK

SLOTT • CAMUNCOLI

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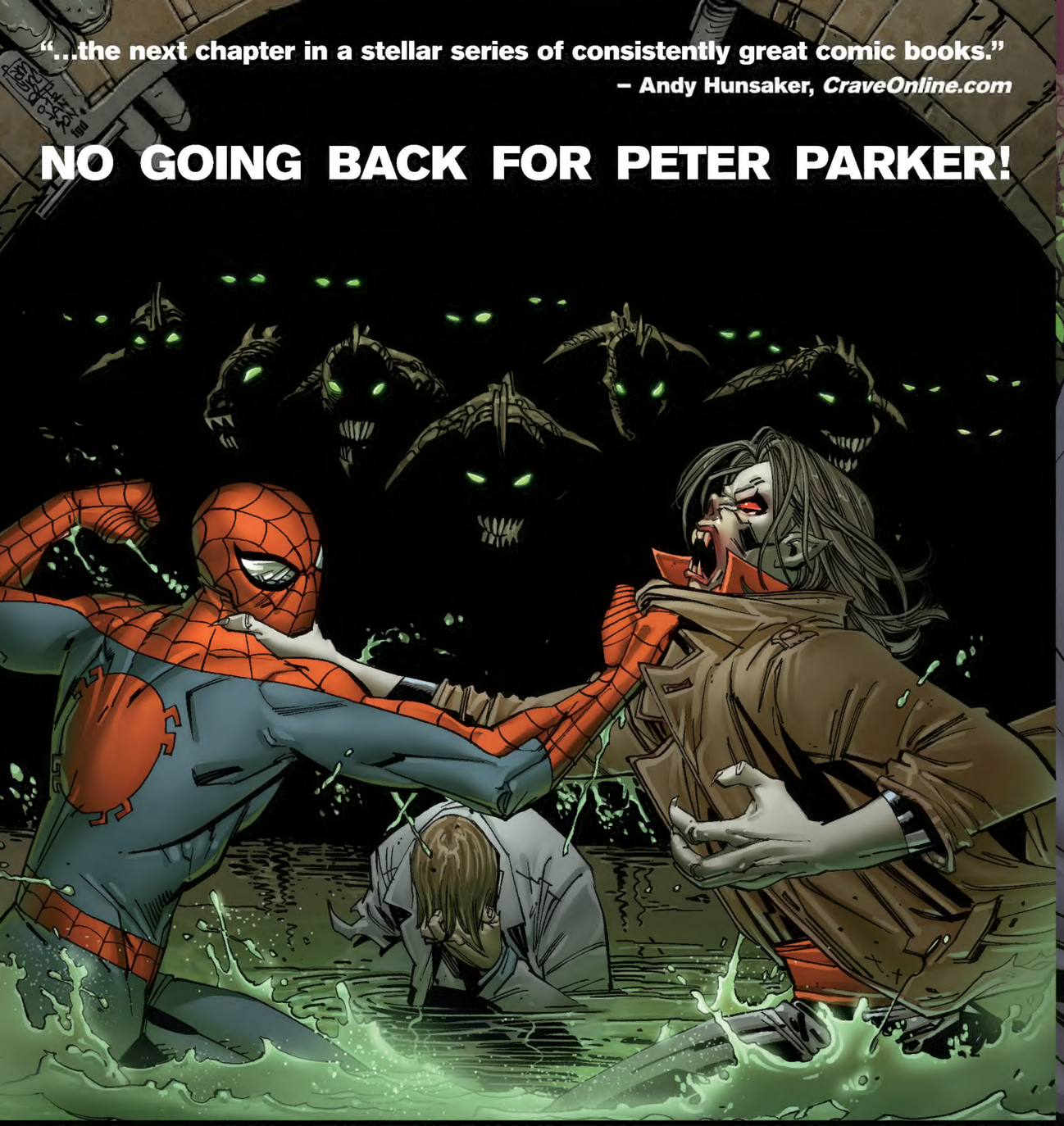
"...the next chapter in a stellar series of consistently great comic books."
– Andy Hunsaker, *CraveOnline.com*

NO GOING BACK FOR PETER PARKER!



Spider-Man must contend with the cold-blooded combination of the Lizard and Morbius — one a rampaging reptile that may have cut the cord with his human host forever, the other a scientific genius touched with a vampiric lust for human blood. Morbius has worked overtime to develop a cure for the Lizard — and by all indications, he's succeeded — but is there anything left of Dr. Curt Connors to save? Who exhumed the body of Connors' late son, Billy? And how can Spidey trust Morbius when every time he turns around, the Living Vampire is sinking his teeth into yet another victim? The answers come fast and furious in a frightening tale that reminds readers that when it comes to senses-shattering savagery, no one can stand with the Lizard!

Collecting *Amazing Spider-Man #688-691*, written by Dan Slott *(Mighty Avengers)* and illustrated by Giuseppe Camuncoli *(Daken: Dark Wolverine)* with Mario Del Pennino, plus a blast from Spidey vs. Lizard battles past with *Untold Tales of Spider-Man #9*.

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688

50 YEARS OF SPIDER-MAN

THE WORLD'S TASTIEST SUPER HERO!

the AMAZING SPIDER-MAN

SLOTT
CAMUNCOLI
JANSON
D'ARMATA

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FINAL

DAILY BUGLE®

NEW YORK'S FINEST DAILY NEWSPAPER

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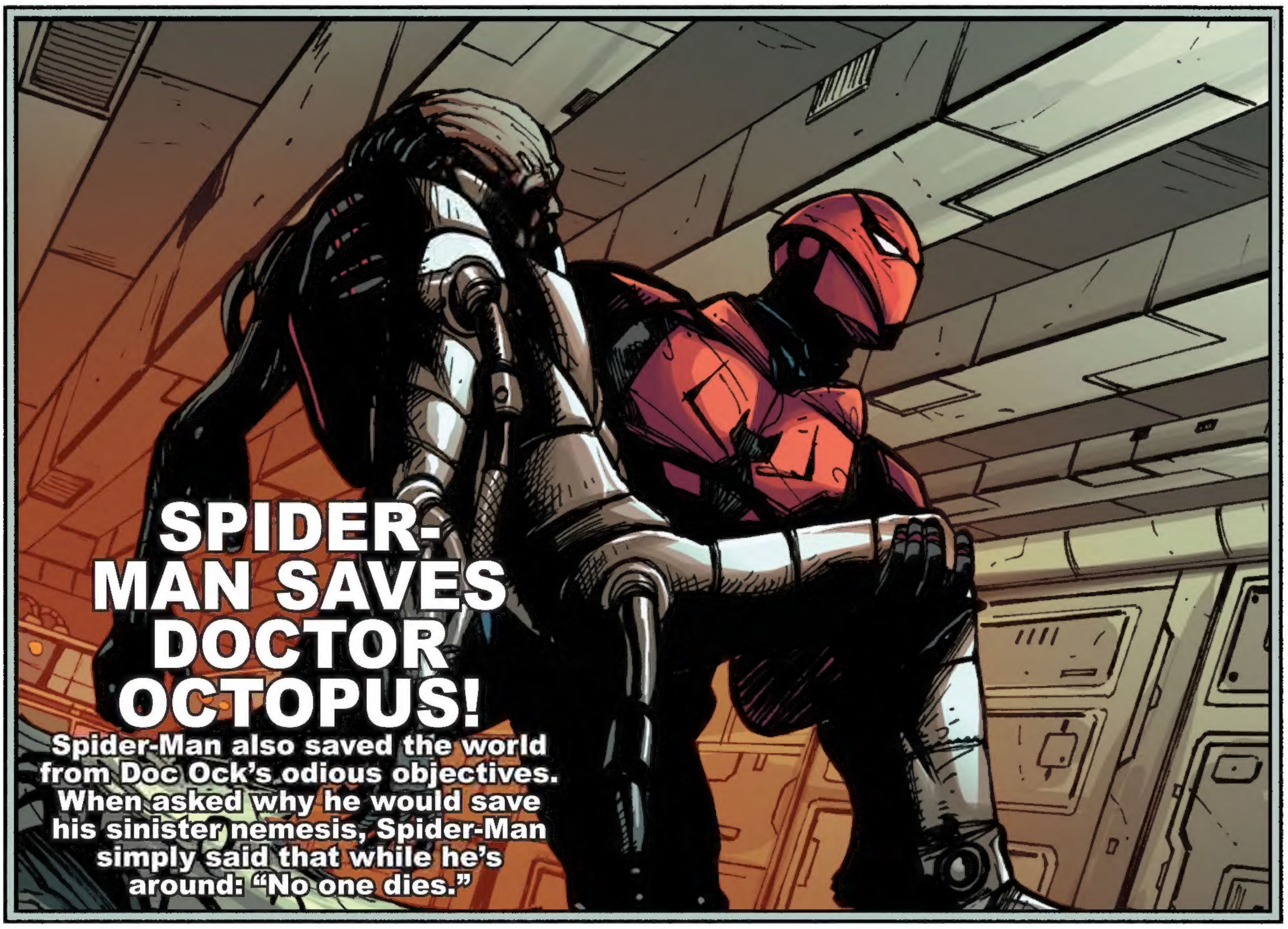
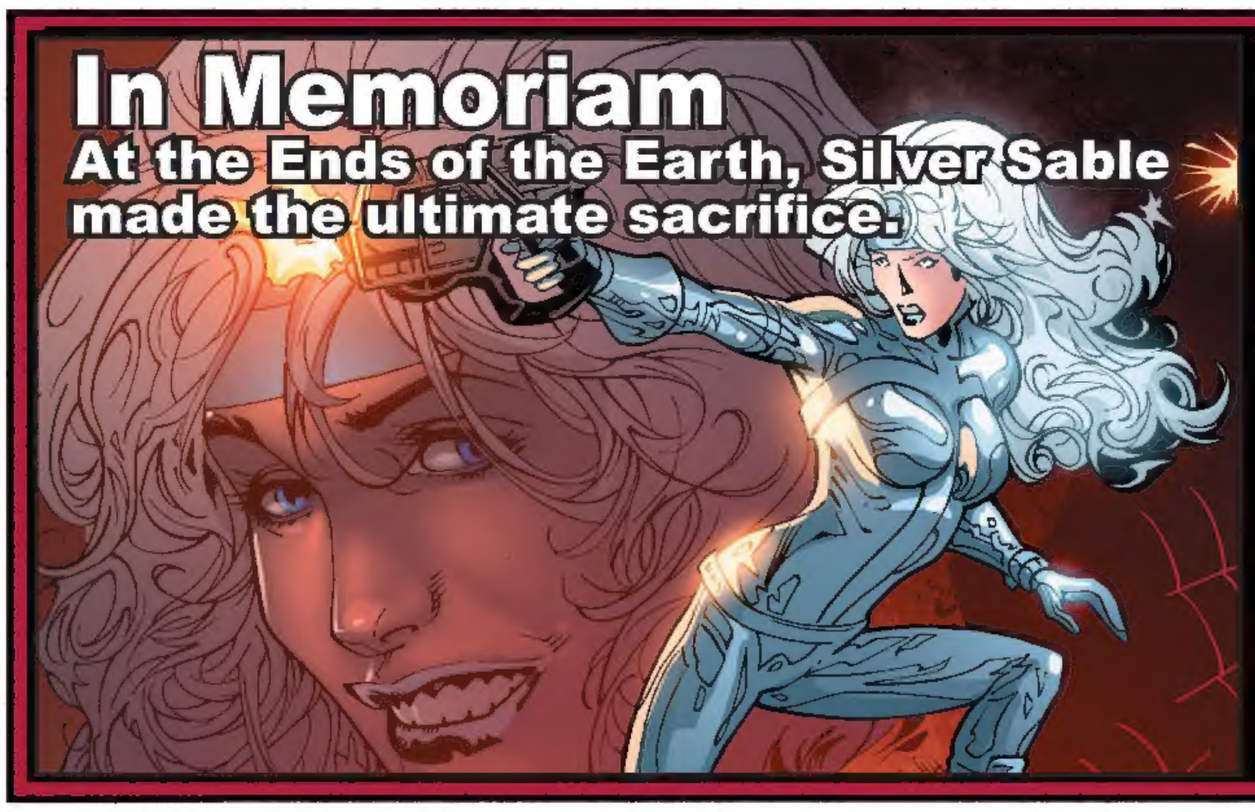
INSIDE: MARY JANE WATSON COURTS CLUBBERS!; MATT MURDOCK STILL MISSING!; RACHEL COLE-ALVES: VICTIM OR VIGILANTE? RUMOR: RAGE-FILLED REPTILES RUN RAMPANT!


SPIDER-MAN SAVES DOCTOR OCTOPUS!
Spider-Man also saved the world from Doc Ock's odious objectives. When asked why he would save his sinister nemesis, Spider-Man simply said that while he's around: "No one dies."



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Now.
BENEATH FULTON STREET AND BROADWAY.

CAN'T REMEMBER HOW LONG I'VE BEEN DOWN HERE. HOW MANY PUNCHES I'VE THROWN--

--OR HOW MANY TIMES HE'S CLAWED ME, BITTEN INTO ME--

--OR WHIPPED ME WITH THAT DAMNED TAIL OF HIS!

AND I DON'T CARE. I CAN'T LOSE THIS ONE. I CAN'T!

SSSTUPID MAMMAL. WE HAD AN UNDERSSSTANDING.

YOU SSSTAY ABOVE. I RULE BELOW!

AN UNDERSTANDING?! WHAT ARE YOU TALKING A--

WAIT. HE'S RIGHT. THE LIZARD'S RIGHT.

NO TURNING BACK

Part 1: The Win Column

LAST TIME WE FOUGHT, HE BROKE ME. AND I JUST LET HIM GO.

I LAY THERE BEATEN WHILE HE AND ALL OF HIS FOLLOWERS MARCHED INTO THE SEWERS AFTER HIM...

SHUT UP!

POK

I COULDN'T STAND. COULD BARELY BREATHE. AND WHEN I FINALLY *DID* GO LOOKING...

...EVEN WITH MY OH-SO-SPECIAL SPIDER-SENSE, I COULDN'T FIND *ANY* OF THEM.

AND THERE WERE SO MANY...

YOU THINK THAT COUNTS? LAST TIME YOU HAD AN ARMY BACKING YOU UP...

...THIS TIME, IT'S JUST YOU AND ME!

HEH! AN ARMY?

THEY WERE HOMO SAPIENSSS!

PATHETIC HAIRLESSS APESSS!

NONE OF THEM COULD EMBRACE THEIR REPTILE SSSIDE!

IN THE END, THEY WERE ONLY GOOD FOR ONE THING...

...NOURISHMENT.

KA-AKCHT

NO.

HE WAS DOWN HERE WITH THEM FOR *MONTHS!*

AND I KNEW WHAT THE LIZARD WAS CAPABLE OF! I SAW WHAT HE DID TO BILLY CONNORS-- HIS *OWN SON!*

AND I'VE DONE *NOTHING!*

AGAIN? HUMANSSS. YOU WILL NEVER LEARN.

I AM LARGER! FASSSTER! SSSTRONGER THAN YOU!

YOU COLD-BLOODED *FREAK--*

FTAM

PUNCH

--YOU HAVE *NO IDEA--*

KRAK

--WHAT *THIS HUMAN* IS CAPABLE OF!

TOO MANY ARE *DEAD* BECAUSE I DIDN'T MAKE YOU A *PRIORITY*, LIZARD! THAT ENDS *HERE!*

I'M READY FOR YOU *NOW!*

'CAUSE AS OF TODAY...

...EVERYTHING CHANGES!

Eight Hours Earlier.

SOUTH STREET SEAPORT. HOME TO HORIZON LABS.

HERE WE GO.

GUESS IT'S TIME TO GET BACK TO WORK.

CHANNEL SEVEN, REPORTING *LIVE* FROM THE SOUTH STREET SEAPORT...

...WHERE THE *ZENITH*, HORIZON'S FLOATING LABORATORY, RETURNS AFTER ITS SUCCESSFUL--

DAILYBUGLE.COM, WITH STREAMING FOOTAGE OF NEW YORK'S CELEBRITY GENIUSES...

...WHO AIDED THE AVENGERS IN DISMANTLING *DOCTOR OCTOPUS'* DEADLY NETWORK OF SATELLITES--

...THE ELITE TEAM OF SCIENTISTS WHO HELPED LOCATE THE *SINISTER SIX'S* SECRET BASE.

...TO A HERO'S WELCOME. MAYOR JAMESON, HOWEVER, HAS NO COMMENT AT THIS TIME--

HORIZON ZENITH

PRESS

HEY, MOM!

THIS REALLY ALL FOR US?

DUDE! UP HERE! ALWAYS WANTED TO SAY THIS...

...*WE'RE GOIN' TO DISNEY WORLD!*

MR. PARKER? IS THAT YOU DOWN THERE?

HI, MR. MODELL!

COME UP HERE, SON! YOU SHOULD TAKE PART IN THIS, TOO.

NAH. YOU GUYS DID ALL THE HEAVY LIFTING.

NONSENSE. YOU DESIGNED SPIDER-MAN'S TECH. WITHOUT *YOU*--

AH, MR. MODELL? NOT SOMETHING I'D LIKE TO BROADCAST TO THE WORLD.

AH. OF COURSE.

MAX!

HOW ARE YOU?

GOOD NOW THAT YOU'RE HERE, HECTOR. AND HOW GOES OUR...

...DEALINGS WITH THE *MAYOR'S OFFICE?*

THEY'VE APOLOGIZED FOR OUR BRIEF *INCONVENIENCE* WITH CON ED.

AND THEY'D LIKE THE *HEROES OF MANHATTAN* TO KNOW THAT THE POWER'S BACK ON.

WE'RE UP AND RUNNING AGAIN...FOR NOW.

HORIZON

HOWEVER, THERE IS STILL THE MATTER OF OUR "*SPECIAL GUEST*" IN LAB SIX.

THEY WANT HIM GONE, MAX. THERE'S NO BUDGING THEM ON THAT.

NO. I REFUSE TO TURN MY BACK ON *DR. MORBIUS.*

YOU MISSED THE BOAT, PARKER.

SINCE WE LEFT PORT.

HOW LONG HAVE YOU BEEN SAVING THAT ONE, SAJANI?

BRO! HOT SUPER-MODEL JUST ASKED ME OUT!

NO WAY.

TOTALLY. THERE ARE SUPER-MODELS *EVERY-WHERE!* AND THEY WANNA *PARTY* WITH ALL US HORIZON GEEKS!

WE HAVE *GOT* TO SAVE THE WORLD MORE OFTEN.

PETER PARKER? GOT AN INVITE FOR YOU, TOO.

PARTY AT *MJ'S* TONIGHT.

REALLY? FOR *ALL* OF US? IN HER LITTLE PLACE IN BROOKLYN?

NOT AT HER APARTMENT. AT "*MJ'S.*"

WHAT?! A *NIGHTCLUB?*

MARY JANE OWNS A NIGHTCLUB? WHEN DID *THAT* HAPPEN?

OKAY, THIS--

--THIS IS TOO WEIRD.

I'M IN MARY JANE WATSON'S NIGHTCLUB...

...WITH PRACTICALLY EVERYONE I'VE EVER KNOWN:

FROM HIGH SCHOOL. COLLEGE. NEIGHBORS.

STAFF FROM THE BUGLE. THE MAYOR'S OFFICE. HORIZON.

AND THEY'RE ALL HAVING SUCH A GOOD TIME.

I SHOULDN'T BE HERE.

HEY, TIGER! WHAT DO YOU THINK?

IT'S A... GREAT PLACE YOU HAVE HERE, MJ. VERY *YOU*.

THANKS, YOU BIG JERK.

I GOT IT FOR *YOU*. FOR *THIS*. FOR *TONIGHT*.

BECAUSE THE WORLD *DIDN'T* GO KA-BLOOEY. AND FOR *ONCE* I WANTED YOU TO KNOW THAT SOMEONE--

UNH! FORGET IT. C'MON. OUTSIDE. NOW.

SORRY, MJ. I DON'T MEAN TO BRING THE MOOD DOWN. I SHOULD PROBABLY GO.

GO? HELLO? DIDN'T YOU HEAR ME? THIS IS *YOUR* PARTY.

THIS ISN'T JUST THE COOLEST SHINDIG THE CITY'S EVER SEEN. IT'S A *PETER PARKER PALOOZA!*

YOU SAVED THE *CITY* FROM SPIDER-ISLAND. SAVED THE *WORLD* FROM DOCTOR OCTOPUS.

NO OFFENSE, MR. P, BUT IF IT WERE ME--I'D BE DANCING ON EVERY TABLE.

OR, IN YOUR CASE, THE *CEILING*.

I KNOW YOU'RE NOT THAT KINDA GUY, BUT FOR ONCE CAN'T YOU JUST *ENJOY* IT? YOU *WON!*

NO, I DIDN'T. I BLEW IT, MJ.

I WASN'T GOOD ENOUGH. OR SMART ENOUGH. I COULDN'T FIND A WAY TO--

I LEFT SILVER SABLE TO DIE.

ONE PERSON VERSUS *EVERYONE* ELSE ON EARTH. THE AVENGERS, AND ALL THE OTHER HEROES, THEY DON'T GET WHY I'M ALL--

I DO.

IT'S WHO YOU ARE. EVERY LIFE MEANS THE WORLD TO YOU.

TO YOU EVERYONE IS SOMEONE'S UNCLE BEN. CAPTAIN STACY. GWEN.

YOU FEEL EVERY ONE OF THEM, DON'T YOU?

IT NEVER STOPS. AND LATELY? OKSANA SYTSEVICH. BILLY CONNORS.

WHEN MARLA JAMESON DIED, I JUST COULDN'T TAKE IT ANYMORE. I MADE A VOW.

WHEN I'M AROUND, *NO ONE* DIES.

PETER PARKER. I THINK...

...THAT'S THE *STUPIDEST* THING YOU'VE EVER SAID.

HEY!

THAT'S IMPOSSIBLE.

WHAT? *I'M* IMPOSSIBLE. I WALK UP WALLS. BEND STEEL IN MY BARE HANDS.

YOU FORGET TO WATER THE PLANTS AND CAN'T PARALLEL PARK.

YES, SWEETIE, YOU'RE SUPER...

...BUT YOU'RE STILL *HUMAN*. PEOPLE MAKE *MISTAKES*. AND THAT VOW OF YOURS? NO ONE COULD LIVE UP TO THAT.

I KNOW.

BUT THERE'VE BEEN DAYS WHERE JUST *BELIEVING* I COULD...

...WAS ALL THAT KEPT ME FROM GOING CRAZY.

Now.

AHHH!

MRAAAR

HSSSS

HMM. YESSS. GOOD.

NO MORE TALKING.

YOU DIDN'T COME DOWN HERE TO CHATTER AWAY LIKE SSSOME MONKEY.

YOU CAME LOOKING FOR A FIGHT!

NO, YOU DUMB CREATURE...

...THIS IS A *HUNT*.

I'M NOT HERE TO *FIGHT* YOU--

--I'M HERE TO *END* YOU!

HRAWWW

SPLITCH

"WAIT. HOLD THAT THOUGHT..."

Four Hours Ago.

...I'M GETTING A CALL.

DON'T STAND SO. DON'T STAND SO CLOSE TO ME.

NICE RINGTONE.

IT'S THE POLICE. MY...uhh-- *FRIEND* ON THE FORCE.

WHAT'S UP, OFFICER?

"OFFICER?"

WHATEVER. SUIT UP. I'M IN BROOKLYN. *GREENWOOD CEMETERY.*

THERE'S SOMETHING HERE SPIDER-MAN *REALLY* NEEDS TO SEE.

THAT WAS *CARLIE COOPER*, WASN'T IT?

YEAH, BUT...

SHE NEEDS YOU AS SPIDEY. FOR SOME POLICE THING.

AND YOU'RE OKAY WITH THAT?

YEAH. WE'VE TALKED ABOUT IT.

WE HAVE?

NO, NOT YOU AND *ME*. ME AND *CARLIE*.

WHOA? SINCE WHEN IS THERE A "*YOU AND CARLIE*"?

WEEKS NOW.

OH MAN...

WHAT? WE'RE YOUR EXES AND WE BOTH KNOW YOU'RE SPIDER-MAN.

BACK IN #675 --DAN

WHO *ELSE* CAN WE TALK TO ABOUT THIS STUFF? WE'RE LIKE A TWO-WOMAN SUPPORT GROUP.

AND... WHAT DO YOU "*SUPPORT GROUP*" ABOUT?

THE STOCK MARKET. WHAT DO YOU THINK? NOW HURRY UP AND CHANGE ALREADY. I'M KEEPING A LOOKOUT.

UHHH.

LOOK, I'LL CALL YOU LATER. THANKS FOR THE PARTY. AND THE TALK.

YEAH. YEAH.

BE SURE TO ASK HER IF WE'RE STILL ON FOR TUESDAY.

SO. NOT. LIKING. THIS.

A Half Hour Later.

OFFICER COOPER. WHAT'S UP?

A GRAVE'S BEEN ROBBED. IT'S SOMEONE YOU KNOW.

I'M SORRY. I DIDN'T KNOW HOW TO BREAK THIS TO YOU.

WILLIAM CONNORS
BELOVED SON
TAKEN FROM US FAR TOO SOON.

BILLY. WHY WOULD ANYONE--?

I WANT THIS ONE.

I THOUGHT SO.

CARLIE, TELL ME. ANY LEADS?

YEAH. SOMETHING THAT PUTS THIS FIRMLY IN *YOUR* WORLD.

ONE OF THE GROUNDS-KEEPERS SAW THE PERP.

PALE SKIN. BLEACH WHITE. INHUMANLY STRONG. DUG UP SIX FEET OF EARTH WITH HIS BARE HANDS.

TOOK THE BODY AND *FLEW AWAY.*

SOUND LIKE ANY OF *YOUR* REGULARS?

YEAH. I KNOW HIM.

HE'S THE GUY *WHO SITS NEXT TO ME AT WORK!*

Horizon Labs.
SOUTH STREET SEAPORT

WHERE IS HE?! I WANT TO SEE HIM RIGHT NOW!

SPIDER-MAN? IF YOU'RE LOOKING FOR YOUR FRIEND, PARKER, HE'S NOT HERE RIGHT--

FORGET PARKER. HE'S NOT THE ONE I'M AFTER!

MR. MODELL! MAX? I THINK YOU SHOULD GET OUT HERE.

SPIDER-MAN? IS SOMETHING THE MATTER? I JUST GOT BACK FROM A--

MORBIUS. *THE LIVING VAMPIRE.* IS HE HERE?!

YES. ACCORDING TO SECURITY LOGS, HE'S CHECKED INTO LAB 6.

TAKE ME TO HIM. *NOW.*

PLEASE UNDERSTAND, DOCTOR MORBIUS IS A CLOSE FRIEND WITH A *MEDICAL* CONDITION.

WE'RE TRYING TO HELP HIM FIND A *CURE*. IF YOU'RE JUST HERE TO HARASS HIM AGAIN...

MAX? WHAT ARE YOU--?

DON'T COME IN HERE!

SEE AMAZING SPIDEY #679.1

YOU SICK SON OF A--

MY GOD.

I CAN EXPLAIN--

EXPLAIN?!

EXPLAIN THE CUT-OPEN CORPSE OF A YOUNG BOY?!

NO! I'VE HAD IT WITH YOU--YOU MONSTERS! NO MORE!

GNH!

D.N.A...

SMASH

I NEEDED CONNORS' D.N.A. TO PERFECT MY CURE!

AND I *HAVE* IT. A CURE THAT CAN FIX THE LIZARD.

YOU WHAT?

YES. A *PERMANENT* SOLUTION. A WAY TO STOP THE LIZARD FOR GOOD.

SO ASK YOURSELF, WALL-CRAWLER, WHAT'S MORE IMPORTANT HERE? THE SANCTITY OF A BOY WHO IS *ALREADY DEAD*...

...OR THE COUNTLESS *LIVES* WE COULD SAVE. YOUR CHOICE. WHO MATTERS MORE TO YOU? THE LIVING OR THE DEAD?

Now.

WAKKK

HEH HEH! I HAVE WAITED A LONG TIME FOR THISSS!

FOR YOUR ANIMAL SSSIDE TO TAKE OVER!

THISSS ISSS HOW IT SHOULD BE BETWEEN USSS! THE FIGHT FOR SSSURVIVAL! KILL OR BE KILLED!

WRONG. I'M *NOT* HERE TO KILL YOU. JUST THE OPPOSITE.

I'M HERE TO HELP. MAKE YOU *WHOLE* AGAIN. HUMAN.

SSSTUPID MAMMAL! THERE'SSS NO HUMAN INSSSIDE ME!

THERE ISSS ONLY THE LIZARD! THE SSSUPERIOR SPECIESSS!

AGAINSSST ME, ONE MAN, EVEN A SSSPIDER-MAN, HASSS NO CHANCCCE!

THEN I GUESS IT'S A GOOD THING I DIDN'T COME ALONE.

WHAT?!

DOCTOR CONNORS.

IT'S DR. MORBIUS. WE'VE MET.

NOW HERE--

--TAKE YOUR MEDICINE!

HRRRK

DOCTORS. ALWAYS MAKE FOR THE *WORST* PATIENTS.

HWRAAAH!

IMPOSSIBLE! HOW ARE YOU STILL--

UNHH!

SKRIKK

"I PROMISE YOU, THIS WILL WORK..."

Two Hours Ago.

...IT'S BASED ON THE SAME MIMETIC SOLUTION REED RICHARDS AND I DEVISED TO CURE THE *SPIDER-ISLAND* VIRUS.

IT WILL TARGET *ALL* OF THE MUTATED CELLS AND RESTRUCTURE THEM...

USING THE CONNORS D.N.A. YES.

CORRECT. IT'S A TWO-STEP PROCEDURE THAT--

OH, WELL, *THAT'S* PERFECT. SO WE'LL JUST BRING THE LIZARD IN HERE.

AND THEN WE'LL SCHEDULE HIM FOR A FOLLOW-UP.

I WAS THINKING MORE ALONG THE LINES OF MAKING A "*HOUSE CALL.*" WITH THESE.

HARPOONS?

HYPODERMIC HARPOONS, YES. TO GET THROUGH HIS HIDE.

YEAH, WELL, "*HYPOONS*" OR NOT, THERE'S STILL A BIG PROBLEM.

THAT THICK HIDE OF HIS? IT GOES ALL THE WAY TO HIS *SOUL*. THERE'S *NO* CURT CONNORS INSIDE.

THAT'S WHY THE LIZARD *KILLED* BILLY--TO SEVER ANY TIES CURT HAD TO THIS WORLD.

HIS PSYCHE IS *GONE*. THERE'S *ONLY* THE LIZARD NOW.

THAT'S A *POETIC* ARGUMENT. I'M TALKING ABOUT A *SCIENTIFIC* SOLUTION! A BIOLOGICAL RESTORATION.

I HAVE TO BELIEVE THAT MY *FACTS* TRUMP YOUR *FAITH*.

THAT THERE ARE NO REAL "MONSTERS"--JUST ABERRATIONS AND AFFLICTIONS WHICH CAN BE *CURED!*

EXCUSE ME. I HAVE SOMETHING TO SAY ON THE MATTER.

I AGREE WITH YOU, SPIDER-MAN. THIS--DESECRATION OF THE CONNORS BOY WILL *NOT* STAND.

AFTER TONIGHT, DOCTOR MORBIUS IS NO LONGER WELCOME HERE AT HORIZON. BUT WHAT IS DONE IS *DONE*.

AND IF THIS CURE OF HIS WORKS, IF DOCTOR CONNORS *COULD* BE RESTORED, HOW COULD WE *NOT* TAKE THAT CHANCE?

MICHAEL, WHAT YOU'VE DONE TONIGHT, THAT CAN'T BE FORGIVEN.

BUT HEAVEN HELP ME, JUST SO IT COUNTS FOR *SOMETHING*...

...WE MAKE THIS HAPPEN. GATHER UP EVERYTHING WE NEED...

"...WE'RE DOING THIS."

"EVERYTHING IS IN PLACE, SPIDER-MAN..."

Now.

NOW!

STRIKE HIM NOW!

SSSTUPID VAMPIRE-MAN! SSSTUPID SPIDER-MAN!

I AM THE LIZARD! THERE IS NO TURNING BACK!

CONNORSSS!

ISSS!

DEAD!

YEAH?!

WELL I'VE HAD ENOUGH DEATH FOR A WHILE! I'M SICK OF IT!

TONIGHT, I'M CHANGING THINGS UP! I'M PUTTING ONE IN THE *WIN* COLUMN!

KTOOM

I'M BRINGING *CURT CONNORS* BACK TO LIFE!

MAX, HE'S ALL YOURS! *LIGHT HIM UP!*

YOU HEARD HIM!

ZZZZIPP

SONIC AGITATORS ON FULL!

ADJUST THE AMPLITUDE!

HSSSSS!

WE HAVE TO BREAK DOWN THE METALS IN THOSE HYPOONS-- RELEASE MORBIUS' CURE INTO HIS SYSTEM!

THISS ISSN'T POSSSIBLE!

NO! I WILL NOT BE REGRESSSED!

DEVOLVED! INTO SSSOME LOWER FORM OF--

--LIFE?

IT WORKED!

HUMAN AGAIN.

QUICK. IT'S NOT HYGIENIC DOWN HERE.

WE HAVE TO GET HIM BACK TO THE LAB AND CHECKED OUT.

I TOLD YOU THERE'S HOPE.

FOR US ALL.

YES!

IT'S-- IT'S COLD.

YOUR CLOTHES--THE *LIZARD'S* CLOTHES MUST'VE BEEN *SYNTHETICS*.

OUR SONIC DEVICES BROKE DOWN ALL THE INORGANIC MATERIAL THAT--

PRIORITIES, JENSEN. LET'S GET THE MAN COVERED UP.

DON'T WORRY, DOC CONNORS. WE'LL TAKE CARE OF YA.

AND CURT? IT'S GOOD TO HAVE YOU BACK.

YES.

TH-THANK YOU.

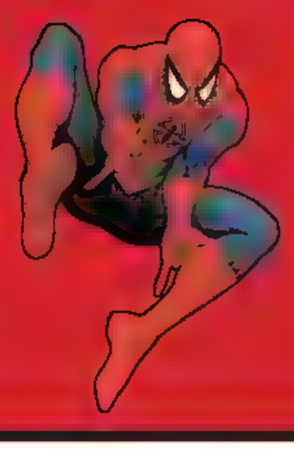
STUPID, STUPID MAMMALS. I WARNED YOU. BUT YOU WOULDN'T LISTEN.

CONNORS IS DEAD! AND FOR WHAT YOU HAVE DONE TO ME--

--THE LIZARD WILL MAKE YOU PAY!

To Be Continued...

the AMAZING SPIDER-MAIL



Send letters to:
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Send e-mail to
SPIDEYOFFICE@MARVEL.COM
(please mark as OKAY TO PRINT)

Welcome aboard, one and all, to the kickoff of "No Turning Back," a spine-tingling tale of lost friends, sorely needed redemption and painful sacrifice. Dan, Cammo, Klaus, Frankie and Joe are together taking Spidey to a terrifying place over the next few weeks and it promises to severely test the resolve of the World's Greatest Super Hero.

The scheduling gods have helped us place this Lizard mini-epic squarely in time for the new Amazing Spider-Man movie that opens next week. As you probably know, the film looks terrific and its version of Curt Connors looks like the scariest thing in cinema since Brevoort's ham-themed workout video back in the '90s.

Think about what a great time it is to be a Spidey fan in this fiftieth anniversary year...between the movie, the animated series, the Broadway musical, the long-running newspaper strip, the new Spidey Young Adult novels and all our many top-selling comics each month, you could almost entertain yourself with Spidey 24/7. It's enough to make a hardcore Spidey fan get a brain hernia!

Anyway, your letters continue to pour in daily about the shocking events of the past few issues, so let's get me to shut up and get to YOU!

THANK THE GODS (Thor, Herc, Wacker...take your pick) FOR ISSUE #682!

Seriously, how amazing was this issue? I'll admit, I'm pretty behind in ASM, but with all the hype about this arc I just had to get it now instead of later. I'm so glad I did. I'm 26 and have been reading Spidey comics for as long as I can remember, and there have been very few times that I felt like Peter was living up to his full potential. Not as Spidey, but as himself. Now he is. It filled me with so much joy to see him succeeding in life on multiple levels and to see how his hard work as Peter Parker is benefiting the world around him. It put such a smile on my face.

A friend of mine stopped reading ASM during "Brand New Day" because he thought Peter had become a bum and wasn't living up to his potential. I can't wait to tell him about this. I'd also be remiss not to mention Slott's fabulous writing (exposition done RIGHT! It's a lost art form in this medium) and Caselli's (and the other artists) stellar work all around. Seriously, thank you, guys.

Taylor Bowne
Port Washington, NY

P.S. Wacker! When are you going to take a stab at writing? Your write-ups in the back are always hilarious!

THNNK YOUE, TAILOR! See, Dann Sloutt! ME AM GUD WRITUR 2! COOKIE FART!

Dear Spidey-Office,

For many years, I quit reading The Amazing Spider-Man because I did not care for who was writing at the time. However, when I heard about Dan Slott taking over, I was back to being a full-time subscriber. During Slott's run, the book has been amazing.

Naturally, I try to push it on any of my friends that are not already reading it. I do this by both loaning out my copies and talking it up online. However, I tend to get the same response back from many: they don't always like the art! This is clearly an issue of some artistic styles not being compatible with some potential readers.

Anyway, I think I have a solution for the art issue: pick one artist, and give that artist a lengthy run on the title. I will even make it easier and give you the artist: Stefano Caselli! We have all seen enough of his work to already love it. But, after reading ASM #682...I have to say he should be the permanent artist for The Amazing Spider-Man.

From the opening page depicting Doc Ock with Spider-Man in his grasp, to the scenes showing the Sinister Six, and then the final page with Spidey in his customized suit, the book is simply beautiful. The image of Spider-Man throwing his foam bombs on the title page...I would hang that up as a poster in my room! With Stefano as the artist, The Amazing Spider-Man would be a far easier sell to those who have not already read it. Plainly put, he has a style that perfectly meshes not only with Spider-Man, but with Dan Slott's writing as well.

There you go. I have pointed out an issue and even given you the solution. Now it is your turn.

I am off to re-read #682!

Have a great day.

Tone Penley
Tampa, FL

Very happy to hear you like Stefano's work, Tone. I'm a big fan myself. Truth is between Stefano, Camuncoli and of course Humberto Ramos this comic is a Murderer's Row of talent. Each of these artists has VERY ardent fans who write in every issue saying their favorite should be the only one drawing the book!

Not only would it be impossible for me to choose one artist to draw every issue (since all three of these modern masters bring an immense and varied amount of skill to the drawing table), BUT the double shipping nature of Spidey means it's more than any one artist can handle.

As a fan and the guy in charge, let me recommend that everyone out there try to appreciate that you're reading the book at a unique time in its run...with talent of the highest caliber each trying to outdo each other issue after issue. In my mind the real winner is me and you who get to read their latest work every couple weeks. I'm sure it won't last forever (or even past #700!), but I'm glad to be here on Spidey during this time in history.

Dear ASM team,

I've been a Spidey fan my whole life, and this year finally decided to use my big-boy money to become a full-time subscriber. Why didn't I think of that sooner?

Anyways, I love what Slott and the team are doing with Webs, but I have one gripe... what happened to Carlie Cooper?!

Peter finally gets a girl who's smart enough for him, she figures out his secret identity, and then, just as they start to work into what could be an awesome, totally honest and symbiotic (get it?) relationship, BOOM! She's tossed from the story like last week's coagulated Chinese food.

What gives?

There's no need to do a whole Carlie issue, but c'mon... what's the end of the story?

Ryan

Ryan, Carlie can be seen in recent issues of the Punisher and in this very issue. She's still out there working... and even dating... trying to piece her life back together after the way her relationship with Pete ended. As for whether or not Pete and she have a future together...well...uhh.... look, just remember Dan writes the book! Not me!

Hey, Spidey Central,

I am exploding with excitement. Just finished part 1 of "Ends of the Earth" and the story arc has really grabbed my full attention. You see, I am an engineer for the E.P.A. in Washington D.C., so I want to thank you so much for working this "hot" topic into what is going to be an awesome Spidey story. I want to believe that Otto wants to do the right thing this time and give the world a gift -- but I don't know -- my Spidey-Sense is tinglin' a bit. Can't you get these books out any faster?! LOL.

Thanks for all the great stories over the years and look forward to many more Marvel-ous ones to come. And in the words of the Hulk holding up the Earth on one of my favorite t-shirts: "Don't Be Mean and Keep it Green!"

Joe Avcin

Great hearing from you, Joe. I know Dan really hit the books on EotE trying to make the science sound authentic. Glad to get an engineer's nod-of-approval.

HEY! Now that I have the attention of a real-life engineer, I have a couple questions for you that I always wondered about:

I'm deleting my awesome questions because Ellie just informed me you probably weren't the kind of engineer that drives a train. So you tricked me. For the record, I don't think it's right for people like you to say you're engineers when you don't drive a train. It's confusing to guys like me who get all their knowledge from old Little Rascals episodes and this letter column. Shape up, pal! *Whoo-whoo!*

Dear Spider-Crew,

I'm sixty-three years old, I've been reading Spider-Man since 1967, because I

(CONTINUED NEXT PAGE)

the AMAZING SPIDER-MAIL

ELLIE PYLE
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EDITOR IN CHIEF

JOE QUESADA
CHIEF CREATIVE OFFICER

DAN BUCKLEY
PUBLISHER

ALAN FINE
EXEC. PRODUCER

watched the television show with my brother when I was young. I loved everything about the Web-Head; my brother happened to be a big fan of Captain America, which spurred more than a few fist-fights over who was better. Boys being boys, I guess.

Well, my little brother passed away three days after he heard his number one hero, Joe Simon, died. In 2007, he was diagnosed with Osteo-Sarcoma, which ended up consuming most of his body. He wept over Joe Simon's death; even though he was in so much pain, that loss still was the only thing that brought him to tears. It made me think about who the real heroes are.

Spider-Man has always been my hero, I love his story of redemption, and he gave, and still gives, me hope. Hope that someday, we could all learn to forgive ourselves. God knows that's what Peter wants to do.

I thought, maybe, the real heroes aren't the Avengers, or the X-Men, or anyone like that. The real heroes are people like Mr. Slott, Mr. Wells, Stan The Man, and Joe Simon. I really would love to say thank you, to the entire Marvel community, for giving me heroes, and for giving my brother and son heroes also. I would really appreciate you printing this in any upcoming issue of Amazing Spider-Man, in memory of my brother Liam De Young and his hero, Joe Simon.

Ron De Young
'Nuff said!

Ron, we're flattered by your kind words. However, we're just trying to entertain you each month. It sounds like the real hero in Liam's life was the guy who wrote this letter.

I hope you and your son continue to enjoy the books. It's an honor to have you here.

That'll do it for another issue. We're right back to it next week for part 2 of our tail-filled tale. No Turning Back continues with Morbius, Curt Connors and an ending you won't believe. Enjoy it while you can!

Viva...I got nothin'.

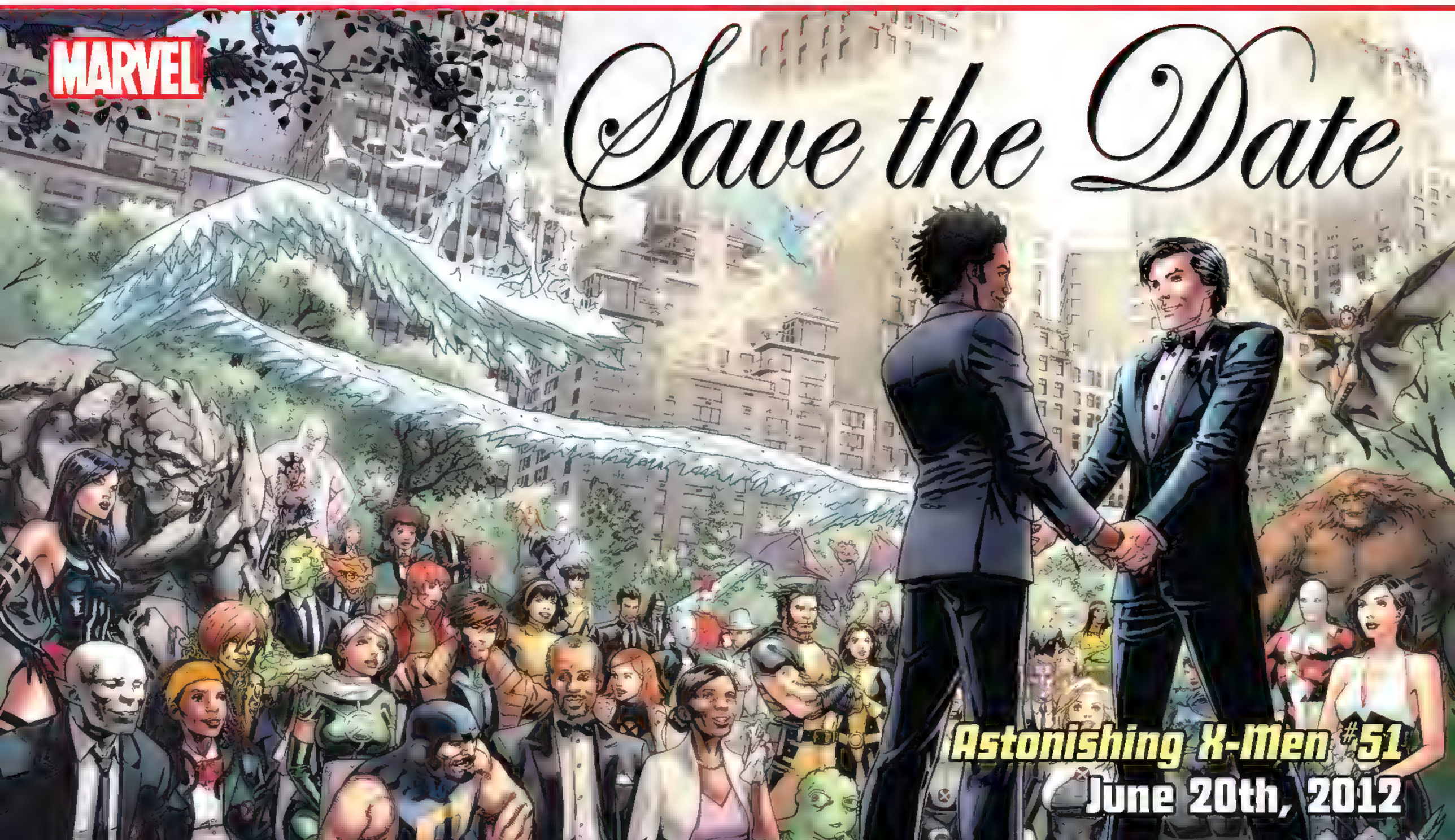
Simperin' Steve
5/31/12

NEXT IN ASM #689:

ALSO:

MARVEL UNIVERSE: ULTIMATE SPIDER-MAN #3

THE ANIMATED HIT COMES TO COMICS!



MARVEL

689

50 YEARS OF SPIDER-MAN

SLOTT
CAMUNCOLI
JANSON
D'ARMATA

IT'S "NO TURNING BACK" FOR THE LIZARD AND...

the AMAZING SPIDER-MAN®

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FINAL

DAILY BUGLE

NEW YORK'S FINEST DAILY NEWSPAPER

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INSIDE: DAREDEVIL SPOTTED IN DOOMSTADT! SYMBIOTES SPOTTED IN STATEN ISLAND SHIPYARD! PUNISHER SPOTTED AT SUPER VILLAIN SURPLUS SALE!

MORBIUS AND SPIDER-MAN CAUSE CONNORS TO LOSE LIZARD LIKENESS!

Living Vampire and Wall-Crawler join forces to deliver a cure to Curt Connors, but is the Lizard gone for good?

What is a "Living Vampire"?

After attempting to use vampire bats and electroshock therapy to cure himself of a rare blood disease, Dr. Michael Morbius, a Nobel Prize winning biochemist, found himself displaying vampire-like symptoms including flight, superhuman speed and strength, an aversion to light and a need to ingest human blood.

Horizon Helps Humanity!

Despite controversy surrounding Michael Morbius, Horizon Labs crew manages to save planet from Doctor Octopus' death-ray.

DAN SLOTT — WRITER
GIUSEPPE CAMUNCOLI — PENCILS
KLAUS JANSON — INKS
FRANK D'ARMATA — COLORS
VC'S JOE CARAMAGNA — LETTERER

ELLIE PYLE — ASSISTANTEDITOR
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Horizon Labs.
LAB #6. THE PERSONAL LABORATORY OF DR. MICHAEL MORBIUS.

I AM WEAK, CRIPPLED, AND OUTNUMBERED.

IF I AM TO SURVIVE I HAVE TO BLEND INTO THIS ENVIRONMENT.

I MUST ACT AND SOUND LIKE THE REST OF THESE--STUPID HOMO SAPIENS.

HOW YOU FEELIN', DOC?

HUMAN, SPIDER-MAN. I'M FEELING VERY HUMAN.

THAT'S *OUR* PROGNOSIS TOO, DR. CONNORS.

ACCORDING TO OUR SCANS, EVERY REPTILIAN CELL HAS BEEN PURGED FROM YOUR SYSTEM.

THERE'S NOT A SINGLE TRACE OF THE LIZARD IN HIM. YOU SEE?! MY CURE *WORKS!*

NO TURNING BACK

Part 2: Cold Blooded

SO...DR. MORBIUS. YOU ARE THE ONE I HAVE TO THANK FOR THIS.

I MUST FIND A WAY TO REPAY YOU FOR THIS KINDNESS.

KILL YOU, VAMPIRE-MAN!

RIP OUT YOUR THROAT!

KILL ALL OF YOU!

WHOA! EVERYONE FREEZE.

WHY?

MY SPIDER-SENSE JUST KICKED IN. BIG TIME.

AH. SPIDER-MAN'S ABILITY TO DETECT PREDATORS. HE'LL BE ONTO ME UNLESS--

MORBIUS? YOU ALL RIGHT? YOU LOOK--

I'M A LITTLE DRAINED. TIRED. I'LL BE FINE.

--HE'S DISTRACTED BY ANOTHER THREAT.

MY BLOOD WORK, DR. MORBIUS, WHAT CAN YOU TELL ME ABOUT IT?

SODIUM. POTASSIUM. UREA. CREATINE. GLUCOSE...

...EVERYTHING APPEARS TO BE...

...PERFECT.

MICHAEL?

YES?

YOU'RE DROOLING.

OH. THIS IS MOST EMBARRASSING.

THAT'S NOT THE WORD I'D USE.

GOOD. PLAY ON HIS WEAKNESS.

HUNGRY.

WHAT?

I'M FAMISHED. STARVING. ANYTHING TO EAT?

NO. THERE'S NO...

...SOLID FOOD IN THIS LAB. SORRY.

THERE.

HE GAVE IT AWAY. HE LOOKED OVER AT THAT STORAGE UNIT.

MUST BE WHERE THE VAMPIRE KEEPS HIS BLOOD.

AND AFTER I SLICED HIM OPEN TONIGHT, HE MUST BE RUNNING LOW.

I CAN USE THIS.

GENTLEMEN, THIS CURE IS NOW A *PROVEN* SUCCESS. WE HAVE EVERYTHING WE NEED IN THIS ROOM.

I SAY WE RECONFIGURE IT TO MY DNA AND BEGIN THE PROCEDURE *IMMEDIATELY*.

AGREED.

NO WAY, MAX!

LAST TIME YOU TRIED THIS ON HIM, HE WENT *CRAZY* AND TRIED TO KILL THE BOTH OF US!

IN ASM #679.1 -STEVE

WAIT. THE VAMPIRE SAID EVERYTHING THEY NEED FOR THE CURE...

...IS IN *THIS* ROOM!

IF I REMEMBER RIGHT, THAT WAS PARTIALLY *YOUR* FAULT.

I KNOW MICHAEL MORBIUS. HE'S A GOOD MAN. IF WE COULD--

SPARE ME. THAT "*GOOD MAN*" OF YOURS IS THE SAME GUY WHO DUG UP BILLY CONNORS' *CORPSE*--

SPIDER-MAN! PLEASE. THE BOY'S FATHER.

OH...

CURT, I AM SO SORRY.

ABOUT WHAT?

YOU THINK HE DIDN'T HEAR?

COULD BE IN SHOCK.

DR. CONNORS, WE REGRET BRINGING UP BILLY LIKE THAT. YOU PROBABLY HAVEN'T HAD TIME TO PROCESS.

BILLY?

CONNORS' DEAD OFFSPRING. WHAT IS THE PROPER *HUMAN* RESPONSE FOR THIS?

AH. FLAILING LIMBS. WET EYES. AND MEWLING.

SNF MY BOY! WHERE IS HE? SHOW ME...

THE WORD. WHAT IS THAT WORD THEY SAY?

PLEASE.

YES. OF COURSE. HERE.

I REGRET UNEARTHING HIM, BUT IT WAS NECESSARY...

...I NEEDED HIS DNA IN ORDER TO FIND A CURE FOR YOU--

TSSSS

NO. THAT'S A LIE. I DID ALL THIS IN ORDER TO FIND A CURE FOR *MYSELF*.

IT WAS A DESPERATE-- GHOULISH THING TO DO. CURT, CAN YOU EVER FIND IT IN YOU TO--

I NEED TO BE ALONE.

YES. ALONE IN *YOUR* LAB, VAMPIRE.

ALONE WITH YOUR EQUIPMENT AND CHEMICALS. EVERYTHING YOU USED TO CHANGE ME INTO THIS FREAK!

THERE MUST BE A WAY BACK! THE ANSWER IS HERE SOMEWHERE!

MY SON!

C'MON. LET'S GIVE THE MAN A MOMENT.

WAIT. I NEED TO GET MY--

ENOUGH OUT OF YOU! MOVE IT.

YOU NEED ANYTHING, DOC, WE'LL BE RIGHT OUTSIDE.

YES. GO. LEAVE ALREADY.

SLOW, STUPID MONKEYS.

AND I AM ONE OF THEM NOW.

WORSE. DEFORMED AND FEEBLE!

I HAVE MIXED THE SERUMS BEFORE TO EVOLVE MYSELF AND OTHERS UP TO REPTILE-KIND.

BUT AS A ONE-ARMED, HAIRLESS APE? IT WILL TAKE TIME.

FAR MORE TIME THAN THEY WOULD GIVE ME...

...TO SQUAWK AND BRAY OVER SOME DISCARDED SACK OF MEAT.

WHAT I NEED IS SOMETHING TO DISTRACT THIS PACK OF MAMMALS.

YES.

A HUNT.

HECTOR? WHAT'S EVERYONE DOING OUT HERE?

IT'S THE STAFF, MAX. WITH ALL THE COMINGS AND GOINGS TONIGHT...

...PEOPLE WERE MADE AWARE THAT DR. MORBIUS WAS BACK ON THE PREMISES AND--WELL--GRAVE ROBBING.

IT'S RAISING SOME ISSUES...

"ISSUES"? YOU'RE KIDDING, RIGHT?

I HEARD ABOUT IT, BUT I CAN'T BELIEVE IT. THERE'S ONLY SEVEN SPOTS IN YOUR THINK TANK. AND INSTEAD OF *ME*--

--YOU GAVE ONE OF 'EM TO A *VAMPIRE*?!

NOT JUST *ANY* VAMPIRE, TY. ONE THAT CAME AFTER MAX *AND* ME.

I SWEAR, YOU TRY ANYTHING, I *WILL* GO ALL BUFFY ON YOU!

CALM DOWN, UATU. EVERYTHING'S GONNA BE FINE. I CALLED THE COPS.

SAJANI, WHY WOULD YOU--?

WITH ALL THE PROBLEMS WE'VE BEEN HAVING WITH CITY HALL, THIS WILL NOT END WELL.

DON'T WORRY. I WAS DISCREET. I CALLED SOMEONE I KNOW.

PARKER'S GIRLFRIEND.

SHE'S NOT HIS--

LOOK, CAN WE DO THIS ANOTHER TIME? EMOTIONS ARE RUNNING HIGH.

SNIFF

...AND WE SHOULD ALL JUST CALM DOWN...

...BEFORE THINGS BLOW OUT OF CONTROL.

THERE. THE PERFECT CATALYST...

...THE SCENT OF BLOOD IN THE AIR.

IT WON'T BE LONG NOW...

SPIDER-MAN? WHAT'S GOING ON HERE?

AH. *OFFICER COOPER*, I CAN EXPLAIN...

EXPLAIN WHAT? YOU WERE GOING TO HELP ME APPREHEND *MORBIUS*. IT'S HOURS LATER. AND LOOK--

--HE'S NOT KNOCKED OUT OR WEBBED UP. HE'S JUST HANGING OUT WITH EVERYBODY BY THE WATER-COOLER.

THERE'S BEEN A--NEW WRINKLE.

A "*WRINKLE*"?

HE HELPED US CAPTURE AND CURE THE LIZARD--

Y'SEE THAT, *COUNT CHOCULA?* THAT'S THE LAW. AND YOU'RE OUTTA HERE!

MISS, PLEASE DON'T--

WHAT?! SO WE'RE *NOT* TAKING HIM IN NOW?

NO. I JUST THINK WE SHOULD PROCEED WITH--

AHHHH!

OH GOD...

SHLUCHH...

WHAT?

OH. SORRY.

I DON'T KNOW WHAT CAME OVER--

KERAKK

WHAM!

MAX, PLEASE BELIEVE ME...

THE HUNGER--IT TOOK OVER. I COULDN'T HELP MYSELF.

I KNOW THE FEELING.

RIGHT NOW, I DON'T THINK I CAN HELP MYSELF FROM SNAPPING YOU IN TWO!

GET CLEAR, SPIDEY! THINK I CAN TAKE 'IM OUT!

SAJANI?!

CARLIE, HER WOUND--

GOT IT, BELLA. APPLYING PRESSURE...

MICHAEL! HOW COULD YOU?!

Uhh...

UATU! NO!

GIVE ME THAT!

HEY!

MORBIUS HAS FED. FOR THE MOMENT, HE DOESN'T *NEED* BLOOD. BUT HE'S STILL A CREATURE OF INSTINCT.

LONG AS I KEEP *MYSELF* AS HIS PRIMARY THREAT, EVERYONE *ELSE* IS SAFE.

UNLESS THEY DO SOMETHING *STUPID*--

--LIKE DRAW HIS FIRE!

KID, STAY THE HELL OUT OF THIS!

MAX...

FAREWELL, OLD FRIEND. I AM TRULY SORRY.

FORGIVE ME.

KRASH

SPIDER-MAN, REMEMBER HE'S--

NO, MAX! NO MORE SPEECHES. HE'S *DONE!*

UATU, I'M TAKING YOUR VAMPIRE GEAR.

I COULD COME WITH YOU. SHOW YOU HOW IT--

NO!

NO KIDS! NO PARTNERS!

FROM HERE ON OUT--

I DO THIS ALONE!

WE HAVE TO GET SAJANI TO THE INFIRMARY. C'MON.

OFFICER, I WANT YOU TO KNOW YOU CAN COUNT ON HORIZON'S FULL COOPERATION IN CAPTURING AND DETAINING MORBIUS.

YOU PEOPLE ARE UNBELIEVABLE.

WE CAN DO MORE THAN THAT, MS. COOPER.

WE CAN *CURE* HIM.

DOCTOR CONNORS?!

EVERYTHING MORBIUS USED TO MAKE ME *HUMAN* AGAIN IS IN THAT LAB.

AND I BELIEVE WE COULD USE IT TO REVERSE... HIS CONDITION AS WELL.

I'M SORRY, DOCTOR. BUT I SHOULD TAKE YOU IN. YOU'RE STILL A WANTED FELON.

FOR KILLING YOUR OWN SON.

I *KNOW.* AND I ACCEPT RESPONSIBILITY FOR EVERYTHING I DID AS THAT... *HIDEOUS* REPTILIAN CREATURE.

STUPID MAMMALS. I COULD DEVOUR YOU NOW. EAT YOUR FACES RIGHT OFF YOUR SKULLS.

BUT I AM THE ONLY ONE HERE WHO KNOWS HOW THIS "*CURE*" IS MADE. I WORKED ON IT ONCE...

...IN AN ATTEMPT TO CHANGE MYSELF, MORBIUS, AND EVEN A MUTATED SPIDER-MAN BACK TO...NORMAL.

WAYYYY BACK IN ASM #101. --NINETEEN SEVENTY-STEVE

I DON'T KNOW. I'LL HAVE TO CHECK IN WITH MY SERGEANT.

I ASSURE YOU, EVERYTHING WILL BE ABOVEBOARD. DOCTOR CONNORS CAN REMAIN IN YOUR CUSTODY, OFFICER.

IN THE MEANTIME, I'LL KEEP AN EYE ON HIM *AND* OFFER MY ASSISTANCE.

I PREFER TO...WORK ALONE.

NONSENSE. I HELPED ON THE SPIDER-ISLAND CURE. I'LL BE INVALUABLE. YOU'LL SEE.

YEAH! AND I CAN CHIP IN TOO.

VAMPIRES, MONSTERS, AND STUFF LIKE THIS IS MY *SPECIALTY*.

GNNN.

NO. I HAVE NO TIME TO WASTE...

...WITH ANNOYING CHILDREN RUNNING AROUND UNDER--

DOCTOR CONNORS?

BILLY...

UM...DOCTOR CONNORS? YOU OKAY?

I-I'M FINE. EXCUSE ME. I HAVE TO GO TO WORK NOW. ON THE CURE.

THERE *IS* A CURE FOR DR. MICHAEL MORBIUS, THE LIVING VAMPIRE.

BUT THERE'S SOMETHING YOU NEED TO UNDERSTAND ABOUT HIM FIRST.

HE'S NOT A *REAL* VAMPIRE.

AND NO, I DON'T MEAN LIKE ONE OF THOSE FAKE, SPARKLY ONES.

HE'S A CREATURE OF SCIENCE. AN EXPERIMENT GONE WRONG.

SO HE *CAN* GO OUT DURING DAYLIGHT. IT DOESN'T KILL HIM, JUST SLOWS HIM DOWN.

SO WHY *DOESN'T* HE LOOK FOR SOME SHADE?

WHY *IS* HE RUNNING AT FULL TILT?

BECAUSE HE KNOWS *I'M* COMING FOR HIM.

AND HE KNOWS *EXACTLY* WHAT MY *CURE* IS!

KTAM

WHEN I'M DONE WITH HIM--HE'S NOT GOING TO RESEMBLE A VAMPIRE ANYMORE.

LIVING OR OTHERWISE.

SPIDER-MAN, WAIT--

NOT LISTENING!

KNOHH

HE'S NOT GOING TO RESEMBLE *ANYTHING*--

--OTHER THAN A *BIG, BLOODY SMEAR ON THE PAVEMENT!*

PLEASE! I CAN EXPLAIN!

I WASN'T IN MY RIGHT MIND!

NO! NO MORE TEARS AND EXCUSES FOR POOR MICHAEL MORBIUS!

ULTRAVIOLET LIGHT GUN--

--WITH GARLIC-GRENADE LAUNCHER!

PAFF

YEARGH!

NOT WHEN YOU'VE GOT MY FRIEND'S BLOOD ON YOUR HANDS--

NO. SCRATCH THAT. *YOUR LIPS!*

POK

HERE! LET ME GET THAT FOR YOU!

SMAK

Astoria, Queens.
HOME TO MADAME WEB AND HER DAUGHTER, RACHEL.
UGH. THIS IS THE *WORST*. STILL CAN'T BELIEVE I HAVE TO DO SUMMER SCHOOL.
YOU FAILED *THREE* COURSES, HONEY. WHAT'D YOU EXPECT?
I DON'T KNOW. YOU'RE A *PSYCHIC*. YOU *COULD* HAVE TOLD ME TO STUDY HARDER.
I DID.
YEAH. BUT THAT WAS IN YOUR *MOM-VOICE*, NOT YOUR CREEPY *FUTURE-VOICE*.
NAILS
MAIL
WELL, SOMETIMES I *HAVE* TO LET PEOPLE GO DOWN THE WRONG PATH SO THEY CAN *LEARN* FROM THEIR MISTAKES.
IT'S ALL PART OF THE GREAT--
"*WEB OF LIFE*." GEEZ. *STOP* SAYING THAT. IT'S *SO* LAME.
WAIT.
IN SUMMER SCHOOL, YOU'LL SIT NEXT TO A BOY WITH TATTOOS...
...UNDER *NO* CIRCUMSTANCES SHOULD YOU *EVER* GO OUT WITH HIM.
WHY? WHAT HAPPENS? WHAT DOES HE *DO* TO ME?
NOTHING. I JUST DON'T WANT YOU DATING BOYS WITH TATTOOS. NOW GO TO SCHOOL. OH...AND SWEETIE?
WHAT?
STUDY HARDER.
GEEZ! ALL RIGHT!
WISH I COULD'VE WARNED YOU, BABY. 'CAUSE THE TRUTH IS, I'D RATHER WE *DIDN'T* HAVE TO SPEND THE SUMMER IN THE CITY...
...I'VE SEEN THE FUTURE AND AUGUST IS GOING TO BE A *SCORCHER*.
BUT THAT'S PART OF THE PROBLEM OF BEING THE NEW *MADAME WEB*. I CAN *NEVER* USE MY POWERS FOR PERSONAL--
YARGGH!

NEW SKEINS ARE BEING SEWN...

...OTHERS ARE ABOUT TO BE *TORN* APART!

THE GREAT WEB ITSELF IS...IS...

...UNRAVELING.

MOVE! BEFORE IT'S TOO LATE!

HAVE TO FIND PARKER AND WARN HIM...

"...THE DARK DAYS ARE COMING."

HURRY, MODELL. WE ARE WASTING TIME.

AND PERFECTLY GOOD, PLUMP RODENTS.

PRIMATES WOULD HAVE BEEN BETTER.

PATIENCE, DOCTOR CONNORS. WE MUST FOLLOW PROPER PROCEDURES.

FIRST, WE INTRODUCE A CONTROL GROUP WITH A HARMLESS PLACEBO...

...ON THE NEXT SUBJECTS, WE'LL INJECT SOME OF YOUR *LIZARD-FORMULA*...

YES. OF COURSE. ON THE NEXT... SUBJECTS.

AND FINALLY, WE'LL TRY OUR ANTIDOTE ON BOTH SETS OF--

HNNN!

DOCTOR CONNORS? ARE YOU--?

TEN

AH. NO WORRIES. EVERYTHING'S ALL RIGHT.

HERE.

LET ME LEND YOU A--

...HAND?!

PATHETIC.

SMAK

UNH!

THIS WON'T DO AT ALL.

WAP

THE VAMPIRE'S "CURE" IS PREVENTING MY *FULL* TRANSFORMATION.

TUNK

I MUST KNOW *HOW!*

AND FOR THAT I NEED...

...A CONTROL GROUP.

PROPER PROCEDURES, MODELL.

MMMPH

INTERESTING.

WITH THIS HUMAN BRAIN, I THINK I AM BEGINNING TO UNDERSTAND "IRONY."

W-WHAT HAVE YOU DONE--?

LOOK AT ME. BOTH LIMBS RESTORED.

IN FAILURE I HAVE ACHIEVED CONNORS' GREATEST SUCCESS.

SKWEE

NO! AHH!

CONNORSSSS!

PLEASSSE!

BUT WITH YOUR HELP, MODELL, I SHALL OVERCOME THIS...

...EVOLUTIONARY SETBACK.

I WILL BE THE *LIZARD* AGAIN--

INSIDE...

...AND OUT.

CHUKK

To Be Continued...

the AMAZING SPIDER-MAIL

ELLIE PYLE
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Send e-mail to
SPIDEYOFFICE@MARVEL.COM
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CONGRATULATIONS TO "JAM-PACKED" JOE CARAMAGNA

ON 100 CONSECUTIVE ISSUES OF THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN!

(DAN SLOTT OWES YA DINNER FOR ALL THOSE WORDS HE MAKES YOU LETTER!)

Viva Caramagna!

Love,
The Spidey office!

ALSO IN MARVEL NEW YORK:

AVENGING SPIDER-MAN #9

BY DECONNICK AND DODSON,

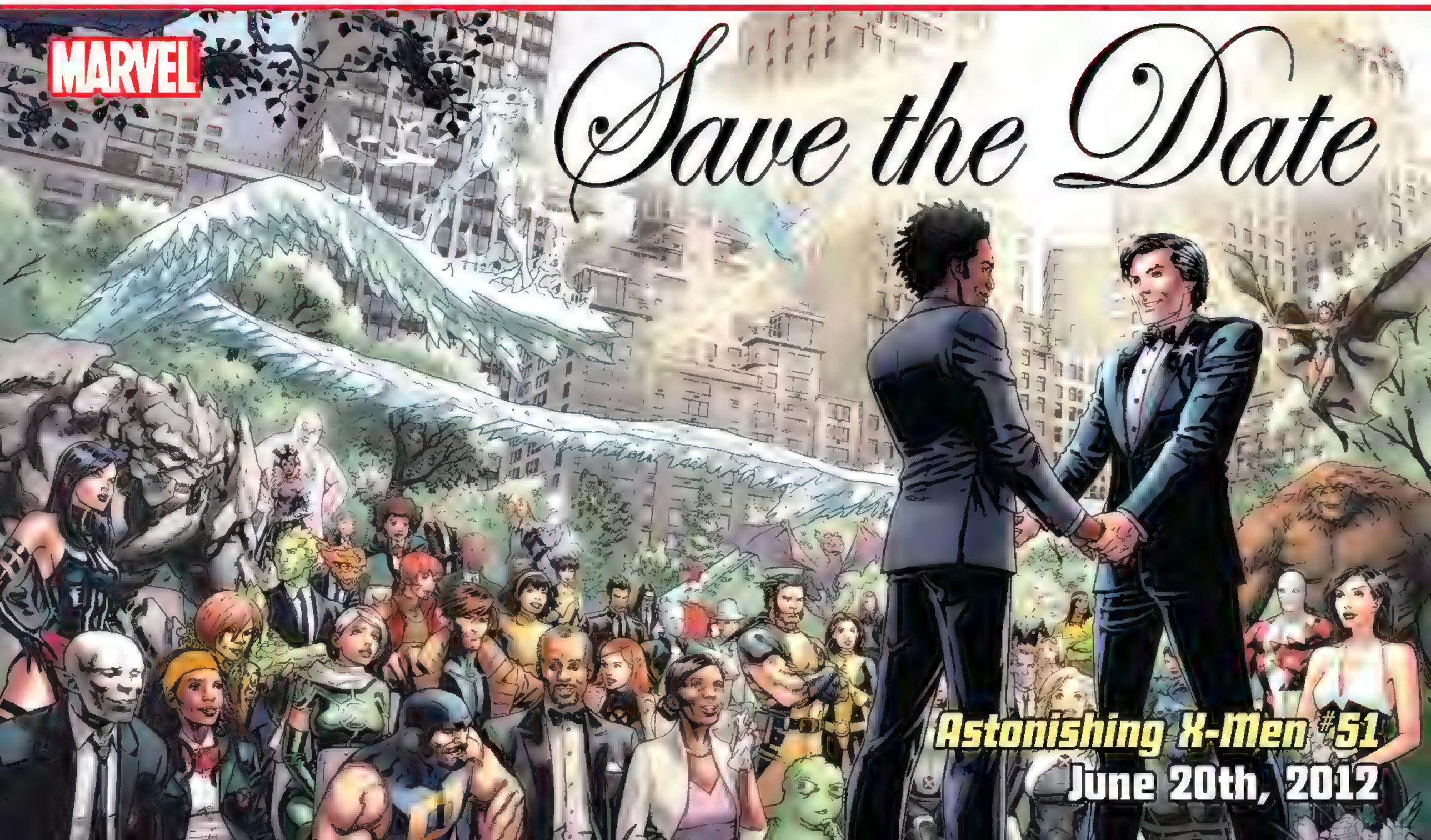
BUT LETTERED BY JOE CARAMAGNA!

CAPTAIN MARVEL #1

SURE, IT'S BY DECONNICK AND SOY,

BUT IT'S LETTERED BY JOE CARAMAGNA!

WHAT A GUY!



MARVEL

690

50 YEARS OF SPIDER-MAN

"NO TURNING BACK" CONTINUES!

the AMAZING SPIDER-MAN

SLOTT
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JANSON
GREEN
D'ARMATA

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FINAL

DAILY BUGLE

NEW YORK'S FINEST DAILY NEWSPAPER

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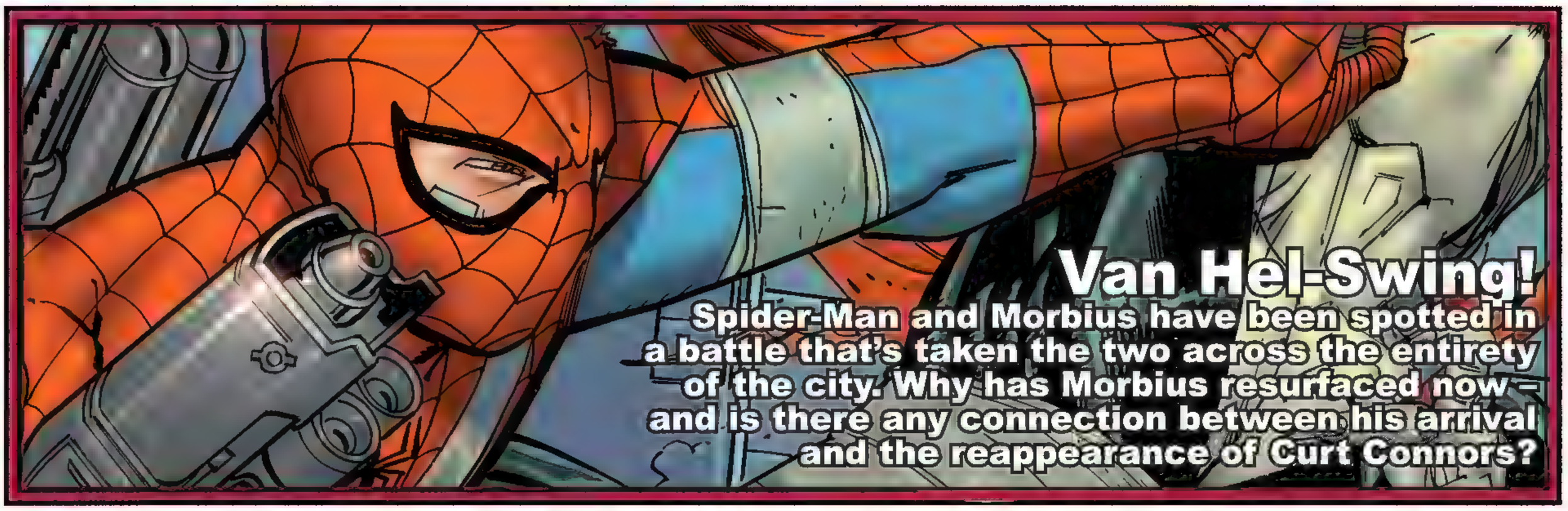
INSIDE: DAREDEVIL DEPARTS DOOMSTADT; AVENGING ARCHER SPOTTED SLINGING SHOTS; MUSEUM MAYHEM: CAPTAIN AMERICA AND CAPTAIN MARVEL? THAT'S A LOT TO ABSORB!

LIZARD LETS LOOSE!

Dr. Curt Connors, apparently cured of the condition that caused him to become the monstrous Lizard, was spotted at Horizon Labs earlier. If that's the case, though, why have reports of a ruthless reptilian been surfacing since his return?


Van Hel-Swing!
Spider-Man and Morbius have been spotted in a battle that's taken the two across the entirety of the city. Why has Morbius resurfaced now – and is there any connection between his arrival and the reappearance of Curt Connors?

DAN SLOTT
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LETTERER

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MATTHEW CLARK, TOM PALMER AND FRANK MARTIN #689 VARIANT COVER

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Lab #6.
HORIZON LABS, SOUTH STREET SEAPORT.
I'VE REACHED A DEAD END. MY CURRENT FORMULA HAS FAILED TO RETURN ME TO MY NATURAL STATE.
I REMAIN A LOWLY...HOMO SAPIEN.
WORSE...
...I AM NOW A PERFECT SPECIMEN.
TOO PERFECT.
ZZZEE
CURT CONNORS IS A ONE-ARMED CRIPPLE.
ZZZAW
IF I AM TO CONTINUE TO WALK UPRIGHT AMONGST THESE HAIRLESS APES...
...THEY CANNOT KNOW WHAT I AM UP TO UNTIL IT'S TOO LATE.
NOW I MUST GO.
SCAVENGE.
GATHER UP MORE CHEMICALS, EQUIPMENT...
HURRR...
...AND TEST SUBJECTS.

WHAT NOW?

HERE! YOU WANT *THIS?*

WANT IT?

FETCH!

HYAHH!

HUHH HNN HNN

ENJOY.

NO NEED TO THANK ME, *MODELL.* YOU'VE EARNED IT.

SOON, IF ALL GOES WELL, I'LL BE JOINING YOU.

DOCTOR CONNORS? WHY THE BAG? NOT THINKING OF *GOING* ANYWHERE, ARE YOU?

YOU'RE STILL UNDER *MY* CUSTODY.

I KNOW, *OFFICER COOPER.* I JUST NEED TO LEAVE SOME OF MY EXPERIMENTS RUNNING FOR A WHILE.

IF YOU AND MAX NEED ANOTHER LAB, YOU CAN ALWAYS USE MINE.

THANK YOU, *BELLA.* BUT MR. MODELL WON'T BE JOINING US.

HE'S REALLY GOING AT IT IN THERE. REALLY SINKING HIS *TEETH* INTO IT.

NO TURNING BACK

PART 3: NATURAL STATE

Twelve blocks away.

SO THIS IS WHERE WE'RE AT, HUH, *MORBIUS?*

NO MORE "*PITY ME*" SPEECHES? WE'VE MOVED ON TO THE *BITING* AND *BLOODSUCKING* PORTION?

UNGH!

GOOD! MAKES MY LIFE A *LOT* EASIER!

WHAK

AHHH!

NOW I CAN BEAT THE HELL OUTTA YOU WITH A *CLEAR CONSCIENCE* AND NO--

SPIDER-MAN!

--DISTRACTIONS?

I'VE HAD A VISION.
JULIA--
MADAME WEB.
WHATEVER. NOW'S *NOT* A GOOD TIME.
YOU'RE IN *GRAVE* DANGER.
DUH-*DOY*.
YOU *KNOW* I'VE GOT *SPIDER-SENSE* FOR THAT, RIGHT?
CASE IN POINT.
SEE?
DON'T NEED YOU HERE. BUSY NOW. *GO*.
I'M NOT TALKING ABOUT THE VAMPIRE.
FLING
IT'S YOUR *FUTURE*.
SOMETHING'S ABOUT TO HAPPEN AT HORIZON LABS.
I'M...NOT SURE. BUT ONCE IT'S BEEN SET IN MOTION...
...YOUR PATH-- YOUR DESTINY-- WILL BE NOTHING BUT *RUIN* AND *DESPAIR*.

Shadowland.

HEADQUARTERS OF WILSON FISK, THE KINGPIN OF CRIME

WAP

PHONE, DIAL *MR. STONE* AT HORIZON LABS.

LOOK AT YOU, BOSS. MULTITASKING. I'M SO PROUD.

DOES THAT THING READ TEXTS FOR YOU? 'CAUSE I WANNA SEND YOU MY *JOKE OF THE DAY.*

QUIET, HOBGOBLIN!

MR. STONE, YOU KNOW WHY I'M CALLING. I AM *MOST* UNHAPPY WITH YOUR LACK OF PROGRESS.

YOU WERE SUPPOSED TO BE *FINISHED* WITH THIS PROJECT MONTHS AGO.

IF YOU DO NOT *DELIVER* SOON, I'LL BE FORCED TO--

--TERMINATE OUR AGREEMENT. IS THAT UNDERSTOOD?

KRAK

YES, SIR.

STOP! BOSS, IS THAT TIBERIUS STONE? I HATE THAT GUY.

JUST GIVE THE WORD, AND I'LL DO 'IM FOR FREE...

...BUT I GET TO KEEP WHATEVER'S IN HIS POCKETS.

I'LL KEEP THAT IN MIND, GOBLIN.

NIFTY! I WONDER...

...HOW MUCH DO YA THINK HIS KIDNEYS WOULD GO FOR ON THE BLACK MARKET?

HAHA HA--

BEEP

GREAT. NOW *KINGPIN'S* GONNA HAVE ME STUFFED IN A LANDFILL SOMEWHERE.

I *HAD* TO SELL 'EM THE IDEA OF PUTTING *SPIDER-SENSE JAMMERS* AROUND HIS BUILDING TO KEEP SPIDER-MAN AWAY.

MAX MODELL

HOW WAS I SUPPOSED TO KNOW THE PLANS I STOLE FROM HERE WERE *INCOMPLETE?*

BOOP

ALL RIGHT, ONE OF MODELL'S *"LUCKY 7"* HAS TO HAVE THE *FULL SCHEMATICS* IN THEIR LAB.

AND SINCE I'VE BEEN HELPING MAX UPDATE OUR *SECURITY*--AFTER ALL OF OUR SPIDER-MAN BREAK-INS...*

...IF I REBOOT THE *ENTIRE* SYSTEM FROM THE MASTER COMPUTER, I SHOULD BE ABLE TO UNLOCK EVERY SECURE DOOR AT ONCE!

*SEE ASM #679.1 -STEVE

FILE UPLOADING 2%

SECURITY SYSTEM REBOOTING

AH! THIS'S TAKING TOO LONG!

MY *LIFE'S* ON THE LINE HERE!

C'MON!

MODELL HAD ACCESS TO THOSE PLANS! MAYBE *HE* HAS A SET SOMEWHERE!

JUST HAVE TO TEAR THIS PLACE APART UNTIL I--

FOUND IT! ON THE FIRST GO.

MAN, AM I LUCKY TODAY OR WHAT?!

TO THINK WHAT I *ALMOST* WENT THROUGH FOR THIS.

FILE UPLOADING 4%

SECURITY SYSTEM REBOOTING

MR. FISK, IF YOU GET THIS, EVERYTHING'S FINE, SIR. I'M ON MY WAY.

HEY, I JUST MET YOU AND THIS IS CRAZY...

...BUT HERE'S MY NUMBER, SO CALL ME MAYBE?

HERE'S YOUR PROBLEM RIGHT HERE, DOC.

THIS COMPOUND IS BLOCKING A NUMBER OF RECEPTORS.

FACE

WHAT? I WAS DISTRACTED. THAT *RHYTHMIC SOUND*...

OH. SORRY. I LIKE LISTENING TO MUSIC WHILE I WORK.

TAP TAP

MUSIC? I'VE NEVER HEARD...

...THIS *KIND* OF MUSIC BEFORE.

NOT WITH HUMAN EARS. AND A MAMMAL BRAIN.

ADDING THIS ENZYME MIGHT DO THE TRICK.

GOOD. WE SHOULD TEST IT OUT. RIGHT AWAY.

WHERE ARE YOUR LAB ANIMALS?

DON'T HAVE ANY. I DON'T REALLY BELIEVE IN ANIMAL TESTING.

A PITY, MS. FISHBACH.

IT'S HARD TO LOOK RIGHT AT YOU BABY, BUT HERE'S MY NUMBER, SO CALL ME, MAYBE?

"SPIDER-MAN, PLEASE. IF YOU DON'T HEAD BACK TO HORIZON *RIGHT NOW...*"

...YOU WILL REGRET IT.

AND NOTICE THAT I *DIDN'T* SAY "*LIVE TO REGRET IT.*" THAT'S WHERE WE ARE NOW.

OR RATHER WILL BE. IN THE FUTURE. IT'S PRETTY DIRE.

"*DIRE?*" YOU WANT *DIRE*, JULIA? THIS BLOODTHIRSTY FREAK *DRAINED* ONE OF MY FRIENDS!

RIGHT IN FRONT OF ME! AND I *DIDN'T*--

KRAKK

LOOK! WHATEVER IT TAKES, I AM *NOT* LETTING THIS *THING* RUN LOOSE IN NEW YORK.

IF HE KILLED ANYONE AND I COULD'VE STOPPED HIM, I--

--I COULDN'T *LIVE* WITH MYSELF! DO YOU UNDERSTAND?!

YES.

RNGTH

THIS IS ABOUT *SILVER SABLE.*

ONE MORE LIFE YOU FAILED TO SAVE. IT'S EATING AWAY AT YOU. CONSUMING YOU.

HOW DO YOU KNOW--?

PSYCHIC.

RIGHT.

KTAM

THERE'S SOMETHING YOU SHOULD KNOW. YOU'RE *NOT* RESPONSIBLE FOR HER DEATH.

THERE HAD TO BE *SOMETHING* I COULD HAVE--

NO. I MEAN SHE'S *NOT* DEAD.

WHAT?!

I'VE SEEN THE FUTURE. HER STORY IS *FAR* FROM OVER.

NO. WAIT. YOU'RE LYING TO ME AGAIN, AREN'T YOU?

SAYING WHATEVER IT TAKES TO GET ME TO DO WHAT *YOU* WANT!

NO. I'M TELLING YOU THE TRUTH.

DAMN IT, JULIA! YOU AND YOUR HEAD GAMES!

LOOK WHAT YOU MADE ME DO!

SORRY. BUT THIS DOESN'T CHANGE ANYTHING.

YOU STILL HAVE TO GET BACK TO HORIZON. *RIGHT AWAY.*

FINE! STOP DISTRACTING ME...

YOU--TAXED ME, WALL-CRAWLER. NOW I HAVE NO CHOICE--

--*I MUST FEED!* THIS IS ALL *ON YOU!*

...AND LET ME DO MY *DAMN* JOB!

SALE 10.00

FRANGGK

Lab #3.
THE PERSONAL LABORATORY OF GRADY SCRAPS

I THOUGHT MAYBE LOOKING AT A *3-D MODEL* OF YOUR COMPOUND MIGHT GIVE YOU SOME IDEAS.

LOOK, THIS AIN'T EXACTLY MY FIELD, DOC, BUT I'M ALWAYS HAPPY TO GIVE AN EXTRA HAND.

EXTRA HANDS... HAVE NOT BEEN A PROBLEM TODAY.

THAT'S *TWO* I'VE HAD TO LEAVE BEHIND. WHY WON'T THIS FORMULA WORK?

NO WORRIES, BRO. I HEAR YOU'VE ALREADY GOT BELLA AND MAX ON THE CASE.

TRUST ME, THEY'LL WORK THEIR TAILS OFF FOR YA.

HA HA HA!

WHAT?

NOTHING. YOU'RE FUNNY.

STRANGE. I NEVER APPRECIATED *HUMOR* BEFORE.

THE IRONIC JUXTAPOSITION OF DISSIMILAR IDEAS.

DO ALL PRIMATES FEEL LIKE THIS? WHAT *ELSE* HAVE I BEEN MISSING?

HERE, MAYBE THIS'LL HELP. *BRAIN FOOD!*

IT AIN'T ABOUT "*NEED*," DOC. IT'S ABOUT "*WANT*."

I DON'T NEED SUSTENANCE NOW.

CAJUN SPICY RANCH DORITOS.

DIG IN.

EASY, DUDE!

OHHH! PROCESSED FOODS. TRANSFATS. EXCESSIVE SALT. THIS--

--THIS IS *MOST* PLEASURABLE.

CHOMP CHOMP

WHOA! WISH I COULD EAT LIKE THAT AND KEEP *YOUR* SHAPE.

WHAT'S YOUR SECRET, DOC?

HERE. I'M MORE THAN HAPPY TO SHARE IT. IN FACT, I CAN SAY IT'LL MAKE A...*NEW MAN* OUT OF YOU.

DINER

GET 'IM, WEB-HEAD!

THIS IS CAR FOURTEEN. WE'VE GOT A *CAPE ALTERCATION* IN PROGRESS.

SPIDER-MAN'S *ASSAULTING* ANOTHER COSTUMED INDIVIDUAL. PROCEEDING WITH CAUTION--

NO! OFFICERS, *STAY BACK!*

AND *YOU--STAY DOWN!*

THWOK

105

SPIDER-MAN, PLEASE! I CAN'T CONTROL THE HUNGER! I'M NOT IN MY RIGHT--

THMP

ENOUGH OUT OF YOU!

SAVE IT FOR THE SHRINKS AT *RYKERS!* I'M DONE WITH YOU, MORBIUS. OR DON'T YOU GET IT?

YOU'RE *NOT* SOME POOR, TORTURED SOUL TO ME. NOT ANYMORE.

FROM HERE OUT, YOU'RE JUST ANOTHER *LOSER* I'M LEAVING WEBBED UP AND HANGING FOR THE COPS.

9 RANK

ALL RIGHT, YOU KNOW THE DRILL. THE WEBBING TAKES AN HOUR TO DISSOLVE.

SEND FOR A SUPERHUMAN CONTAINMENT VEHICLE.

AND YOU'LL NEED ABOUT THREE PINTS OF *BLOOD* TO KEEP HIM *FED* BUT NOT ENOUGH TO--

HOLD ON! WHAT GIVES YOU THE AUTHORITY TO--

SPIDER-MAN. LICENSED *AVENGER.*

MAKE THE CALL.

AVENGERS
OFFICIAL IDENTIFICATION
SECURITY CLEARANCE ALPHA

THIS IS CAR FOURTEEN, WE'RE GONNA NEED A *SUPERHUMAN* CONTAINMENT VEHICLE DOWN HERE.

AAAND?

AND THREE PINTS OF BLOOD.

EARL, SHOULD WE REALLY BE TAKING *ORDERS* FROM THIS GUY? AFTER ALL...

...CHIEF PRATCHETT SAYS WE SHOULD LOCK 'IM UP IF WE GET THE--

LOCK HIM UP? WHAT ARE YOU? *STUPID?* THE MAN STOPPED A *VAMPIRE!*

THAT THING COULD'VE BIT MY KID!

EVERYONE STAY *CALM*, OKAY? LOOK, I DON'T HAVE TIME FOR THIS. I GOTTA GO.

WAIT. I CAN'T LET YOU RUN OFF LIKE THAT.

I DON'T HAVE A CHOICE--

NO. I MEAN...

...YOUR SUIT'S FALLING APART. BARELY ANYTHING LEFT.

HERE. TAKE THIS.

EARL? WHAT'RE YOU DOING?

ALL THESE YEARS, AFTER *EVERYTHING* HE'S DONE FOR THIS CITY *AND* GUYS IN UNIFORM? THIS'S THE *LEAST* I CAN DO.

THANKS.

PRATCHETT'S GONNA GIVE YOU HELL FOR THAT, MAN.

SCREW 'IM.

Horizon.

DOCTOR CONNORS? YOU IN THERE? IT'S *UATU JACKSON.*

PRODUCT TESTING ROOM

NOK NOK

LOOK, MAN, YOU'VE TALKED TO EVERY *THINK TANKER* ON SITE...

...AND HAVE BEEN CALLING STAFFERS INTO THAT ROOM FOR THE LAST HALF HOUR. I'M STARTIN' TO FEEL LEFT OUT.

DOCTOR CONNORS?

IN A MINUTE!

STILL HAVEN'T SOLVED FOR MY *OWN* BIOLOGY!

I CAN TURN HUMAN TO REPTILE TIME AND AGAIN--BUT I CAN'T GET PAST WHATEVER *MORBIUS* DID TO ME!

IF I EVER GET A HOLD OF YOU, VAMPIRE-MAN--

ZAW

STAY! SSSTAY! I'LL BE RIGHT BACK.

SO, CHILD--?

AHEM. NOT JUST "*CHILD.*" CHILD *PRODIGY.*

FINE. CHILD *PRODIGY.* NOW WHAT'S SO IMPORTANT?

NOTHING, I GUESS.

JUST WANTED TO MAKE SURE YOU WEREN'T AVOIDING ME.

REALLY?! AND WHY WOULD I DO...

...THAT?

I DUNNO. YOU TELL ME.

BILLY.

EVER SINCE YOU GOT HERE, YOU'VE BEEN ACTING ALL *WEIRD* AROUND ME.

CONNORS' BOY. MY--

--HIS SON.

NO! IT CAN'T BE!

HE'S DEAD!

I KILLED HIM!

ATE HIM ALIVE!

BILLY.

DOC? YOU OKAY?

MAN, YOU ARE *SO* OUT OF IT. I'VE SEEN THAT LOOK BEFORE.

HEY, COME WITH ME. I KNOW *EXACTLY* WHAT YOU NEED.

Lab #5.

THE PERSONAL LABORATORY OF JATU JACKSON.

YOU BEEN AT THIS TOO LONG. YOU GOTTA UNWIND. LET YOUR MIND WANDER. WHATEVER YOU'RE LOOKING FOR? YOU'LL HIT IT.

WHAT IS THIS?

THE ANSWER TO ALL LIFE'S PROBLEMS: *VIDEO GAMES.*

AND NOT THAT RETRO CRAP THAT GRADY PLAYS. NEXT GEN CONSOLES, MAN. GRAB A WAND.

LIGHT.
SOUND.
HAND/EYE COORDINATION.
FANTASY.
IMAGINATION.
IMMERSION.
INCREDIBLE!
YEAH! THAT'S IT! GO, DOC CONNORS!
YOU'RE DOING GREAT!
NO. NO. NO.
DON'T FINISH THE LEVEL YET!
BEAT HIM TO REACH THE FINAL STAGE!
POWER UPS! YES!
M.G.H.! MUTANT GROWTH HORMONE!
SUPERHUMAN CELLS ATTACKING NORMAL ENZYMES...
...BREAKING PAST THE GENETIC LOCKS IN MORBIUS' CURE. OVERPOWERING THEM!
THAT'S IT!
SOUNDS LIKE SOMEONE JUST HAD A *BREAKTHROUGH!*
SO WHAT IS IT, DOC? YOU SEEING THE BIG PICTURE NOW?
Y-YES. I KNOW HOW TO FIX MY FORMULA.
FOR MORBIUS' CURE.
THAT'S GREAT. WANT ME TO HELP YOU TEST IT OUT?
NO! YOU STAY HERE.
Y-YOU'RE A GOOD BOY...UATU. THANK YOU.

DOCTOR CONNORS, THERE YOU ARE. GOT AWAY FROM ME FOR A BIT.

YOU CAN'T KEEP DOING THAT. YOU'RE SUPPOSED TO BE UNDER MY SUPERVISION.

SORRY, OFFICER COOPER. WON'T HAPPEN AGAIN. IF YOU'D LIKE...

...YOU CAN ACCOMPANY ME ON THIS LAST LEG. I JUST HAVE TO GET SOME CHEMICALS FROM THE SUPPLY--

HOLD ON.

SOMETHING'S...

...NOT RIGHT HERE.

AREN'T YOU SUPPOSED TO BE MISSING YOUR *RIGHT* ARM?

I...

GRAAA!

DOCTOR CONNORS! *FREEZE!*

YOU HEAR ME?! I'M AN OFFICER OF THE LAW AND I AM *ORDERING* YOU--

NYPD

I BLAME MY STUPID MAMMAL BRAIN FOR THIS!

NOW ALL THAT WORK WILL BE FOR *NOTHING*...

...BECAUSE AS FAR AS I CAN SEE, THERE'S *NO WAY OUT!*

01

100% FILE COMP

SECURITY SYSTEM REBOOTING

Lab #3.

HURRR?

KLIK

Lab #4.

KLIK

HMMM.

Lab #6.

AHRRR!

KLIK

HWRARSTSS

The Atrium.
HORIZON LABS SOCIAL HUB

OUR STAFF DOCTOR SAYS YOU'LL BE JUST FINE, *SAJANI*--

FINE? HECTOR, I WAS BITTEN BY A *VAMPIRE.* I'LL PROBABLY GROW FANGS AND BAT EARS OR SOMETHING.

OH, A FEW BLOOD TRANSFUSIONS SHOULD CLEAR THAT UP.

COUPLE MONTHS AGO I ALMOST TURNED INTO A GIANT *SPIDER.* THIS PLACE IS *INSANE.*

WELL WE DO OFFER A *COMPREHENSIVE* HEALTH PLAN. HERE. HAVE SOME HERBAL TEA.

UM...GUYS, OVER HERE! *GUYS!*

HORIZON

GWAAARRRR

WHAT *ARE* THEY?!

"THEY," LEONARD, ARE THE EXACT REASON...

...WE ESTABLISHED THIS *NEW PROTOCOL.*

EVERYONE, I'M DEEPLY SORRY. BUT I AM *OBLIGATED* TO DO THIS.

CLAK

CLANG-ANG-ANG-ANG-ANG

HECTOR?

MR. BAEZ, WHAT DID YOU JUST DO?!

INITIATED A *LOCKDOWN.*

WE PROMISED THE MAYOR'S OFFICE WE'D NEVER PUT THE CITY AT *RISK* AGAIN.

WHATEVER HAPPENS NEXT, WE'LL HAVE TO DEAL WITH IT *OURSELVES.* WE CAN'T EXPECT...

"...ANY HELP FROM THE OUTSIDE."

CLANG-ANG-ANG

OH, WHAT NOW?!

I SWEAR, I CAN'T LEAVE THIS PLACE ALONE FOR A MINUTE.

NYPD

THIS'S GONNA BE CLOSE!

KRASHHHH

ALL RIGHT, I'M HERE. WHAT'S THE EMERGENCY?

NEVER MIND. KINDA SELF-EXPLANATORY.

OKAY, FIRST YOU GUYS. THEN, IT LOOKS LIKE I'LL NEED TO HAVE A FEW WORDS...

EEEE!

AHHH!

"...WITH CURT CONNORS!"

DOCTOR! THIS IS YOUR *LAST* WARNING--

UNARMED! TRAPPED IN THIS PATHETIC, PINK BAG OF FLESH! I AM THE *LIZARD!* I DESERVE BETTER THAN THIS! I DESERVE--

OHMIGOSH!

HWRARRRR

YES!

AN ARMY! AND MINE TO COMMAND!

DISPOSE OF HER! *DEVOUR* THE LITTLE *MEAT-SACK!*

OH, NO! GRADY, IS THAT--? MR. MODELL? BELLA?

STAY BACK! I DON'T WANT TO--

BRRG BRRG

MED LAB SUPPLIES

HEH. THAT SHOULDN'T TAKE LONG.

NOW WHERE WAS I?

PERFECT. THE FINAL INGREDIENT. *MUTANT GROWTH HORMONE.*

ONCE I ADD THE PROPER AMOUNT, THIS WILL RESTORE ME TO MY *RIGHTFUL* FORM.

BUT IS THAT...

...WHAT I REALLY WANT?

To be continued...

the AMAZING SPIDER-MAIL

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NEXT:

AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #691

LIZARDS UNLEASHED!

AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #688

BY **J. SCOTT CAMPBELL** AND **EDGAR DELGADO**

AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #689

BY **MATTHEW CLARK, TOM PALMER** AND **FRANK MARTIN**

AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #690

BY **SHANE DAVIS, MARK MORALES** AND **JUSTIN PONSOR**

ASSISTANT EDITOR'S NOTE:

LAST ISSUE, I VERY UNFORTUNATELY NEGLECTED TO CREDIT OUR AWESOME VARIANT COVER WHICH WAS DRAWN BY **MATTHEW CLARK,** INKED BY **TOM PALMER** AND COLORED BY **FRANK MARTIN.** SO THIS WEEK I THOUGHT YOU ALL SHOULD GET A CHANCE TO SEE ALL FOUR OF OUR EXCELLENT LIZARD VARIANTS BY SOME OF COMICS' BEST ARTISTS.

TAKE A LOOK!

AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #691

BY **ADAM KUBERT, JOE KUBERT** AND **DEAN WHITE**

IS THIS THE END OF...

HULK

Issue #57

MAYAN RULE CONCLUDES!

"Impressive stuff when you sit back and take a look at how long the threads have been out there and how tightly Parker weaves them together."

~ Comic Book Resources

Jeff Parker - Dale Eaglesham

#HULK

AUGUST 2012

MARVEL

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hawkeye #1

MATT FRACTION • DAVID AJA

GAMBIT #1

JAMES ASMUS • CLAY MANN

ALL-NEW ONGOING SERIES

August 2012

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MARVEL

691

50 YEARS OF SPIDER-MAN

THE WORLD'S GREATEST SUPER HERO!

the AMAZING SPIDER-MAN

SLOTT
CAMUNCOLI
JANSON
GREEN
D'ARMATA

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FINAL

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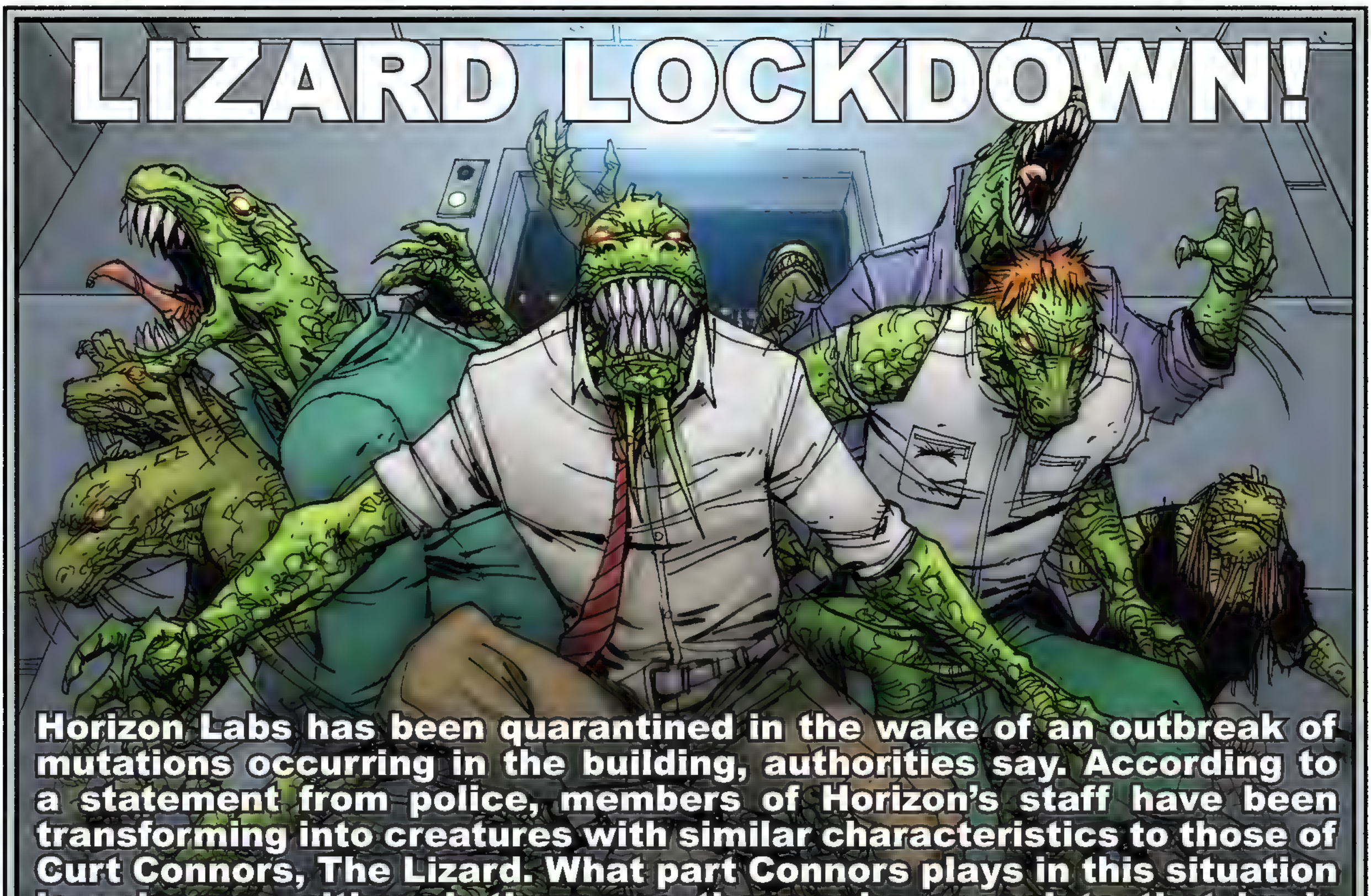
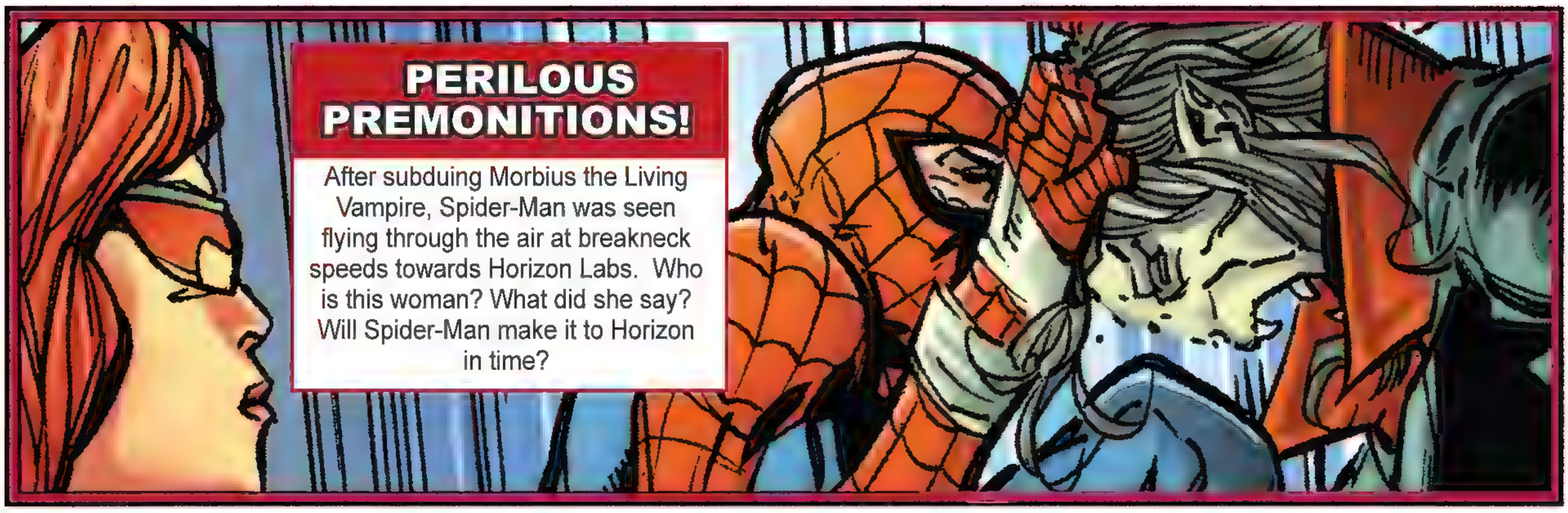
INSIDE: NELSON AND MURDOCK NO MORE? RANGERS ROUTE SCARLET SPIDER! CAPTAIN MARVEL TO BREAK FLIGHT RECORD?

LIZARD LOCKDOWN!



Horizon Labs has been quarantined in the wake of an outbreak of mutations occurring in the building, authorities say. According to a statement from police, members of Horizon's staff have been transforming into creatures with similar characteristics to those of Curt Connors, The Lizard. What part Connors plays in this situation is unknown, although there are those who speculate that he is somehow to blame.


PERILOUS PREMONITIONS!
After subduing Morbius the Living Vampire, Spider-Man was seen flying through the air at breakneck speeds towards Horizon Labs. Who is this woman? What did she say? Will Spider-Man make it to Horizon in time?

DAN SLOTT
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NO TURNING BACK

PART 4: HUMAN ERROR

SO MADAME WEB SAID I HAD TO GET BACK TO HORIZON LABS. THAT THINGS WERE *"DIRE."* HER EXACT WORDS.

AND SURE, I CRASHED IN AND FOUND A ROOM FULL OF GIANT, HISSING LIZARD-MEN...

...BUT SECONDS LATER, THEY'RE ACTING LIKE IT'S A *PETTING ZOO!*

SAJANI? WHAT'S GOING ON HERE?

SOME OF THE STAFF GOT TURNED INTO LIZARDS.

I CAN SEE THAT. WHY AREN'T THEY *ATTACKING?*

WHY SHOULD THEY?

WHAT?

LIZARDS AND HUMANS GET ALONG FINE. THEY'RE *NOT* NATURAL ENEMIES.

IN FACT, THE ONLY LIZARD ON RECORD THAT ATTACKS HUMANS IS THE KOMODO--

EXCUSE ME, BUT DID I ASK FOR--

ACTUALLY, YOU DID. YOU SAID, *"WHAT'S GOING ON HERE?"* FORGIVE ME FOR BEING AN AMATEUR HERPETOLOGIST.

HORIZON

PKOW! PKAM!

GUNSHOTS!

GOTTA GO!

THERE'S ONLY ONE PERSON HERE WHO'S ARMED: OFFICER CARLIE COOPER!

AND I LEFT HER WATCHING *CURT CONNORS...*

...OVER IN THE *THINK TANK.*

CARLIE? YOU ALL RIGHT?

YEAH. THOSE WERE *WARNING SHOTS.* IT KEPT 'EM BACK. BUT HOW?

WELL, APPARENTLY, HUMANS AND LIZARDS *AREN'T* NATURAL ENEMIES.

UM. ARE THOSE TWO ABOUT TO...?

GO ALL "*DISCOVERY CHANNEL*" ON US? I THINK SO.

GRADY AND BELLA ARE *DATING*-- AS HUMANS--LOOKS LIKE THEY'RE JUST GIVING IN TO THEIR *ANIMAL* SIDE.

WAIT. FOR YEARS THE LIZARD'S TRIED TO *KILL* YOU. THIS DOESN'T MAKE SENSE.

MAYBE THAT WASN'T LINKED TO HIS REPTILE PERSONA? MAYBE THAT HAD TO DO WITH--

MED LAB SUPPLIES

CURT CONNORS!

I...

I HAD DECIDED TO LIVE OUT MY LIFE IN THIS SUPERIOR FORM, BUT--

ALL THIS TIME I THOUGHT IT WAS THE *LIZARD* WHO WAS TWISTED. BUT WHAT IF IT WAS *YOU*--

--RESENTFUL FOR LOSING YOUR ARM, YOUR WIFE, AND THEN YOUR SON. WHAT IF *YOU* WERE THE DARK SIDE?

AUTHORIZED PERSONNEL

--I WON'T HAVE YOU DRAG ME OFF AND LOCK ME IN A CAGE LIKE SOME *ANIMAL.* I'D RATHER DIE!

I'D RATHER--

DANG IT! TOO SLOW!

NOW I'VE GOT A MINUTE-- TOPS!

WHAT DO YOU MEAN?

THWIP THWIP THWIP

ONCE HE FULLY TURNS INTO THE LIZARD...

...HE'LL HAVE COMPLETE CONTROL OVER OUR FRIENDS HERE. AND THE REST OF THEM.

THE REST? HOW MANY HAS HE INFECTED?

DOZENS! HE'LL HAVE AN ARMY OF LIZARD-MEN!

GOTTA GET HIM AS FAR AWAY AS POSSIBLE!

GO! WHAT CAN I DO?

YOU'RE SMART. HELP OUT HERE. THERE HAS TO BE A WAY TO CHANGE EVERYONE BACK.

A WAY TO--?

GOTCHA.

HEADS UP! HOT SOUP! COMIN' THROUGH!

SPIDER-MAN? WHAT ARE YOU DOING?

NO TIME, MR. BAEZ! HAVE TO TAKE THIS *OUTSIDE!* ***NOW!***

BUT WE'RE UNDER LOCKDOWN.

WELL, LUCKY FOR ME, I'VE GOT A ***KEY.***

A BIG OL' FOUR HUNDRED POUND KEY!

HRWARR!

SPIDEY, HOW CAN WE--?

UATU! EVERYBODY! ***KEEP BACK!***

NYPD

BILLY?

OKAY, THAT'S WEIRD. BILLY WAS CONNORS' SON...

BUT I WANNA HELP.

NO!

LISTEN TO ME. THIS IS FOR YOUR OWN GOOD!

RRNGCH

I HAVE TO PUT AS MUCH DISTANCE AS I CAN BETWEEN CONNORS AND YOUR TRANSFORMED FRIENDS--

--BEFORE THEY BECOME HIS MINDLESS SLAVES--AND KILL ALL OF YOU!

NOW STAY PUT IN THERE!

THERE. CAN'T WASTE ANY MORE TIME BENDING THIS BACK INTO SHAPE.

NOT WHEN I'VE TOSSED THE LIZARD OUT INTO THE MIDDLE OF THE SOUTH STREET SEAPORT!

SSSPIDER-MAN!

WHOA, LIZZIE. THAT'S... A NEW LOOK FOR YOU.

AND IT'S NOT JUST FOR SHOW. HE'S OBVIOUSLY STRONGER NOW.

STRONG ENOUGH TO TEAR MY WEBS APART LIKE THEY WERE NOTHING!

YESSS. MY FORMULA WORKED. TOO WELL.

THISSS ISSS MY FINAL FORM. I CAN FEEL IT. THERE'SSS NO GOING BACK NOW.

YOU HAVE NO IDEA WHAT YOU MADE ME DO!

WHAT I'VE SSSACRIFICED BECAUSSSE OF YOU!

EVERYONE, GATHER 'ROUND! I NEED YOUR FULL COOPERATION.

OFFICER, I HOPE YOU UNDERSTAND WE HAD NO WAY OF KNOWING--

STOP LAWYER-ING ME! THERE ARE MORE IMPORTANT THINGS RIGHT NOW.

I'VE GOT A SAMPLE OF CONNORS' FINAL FORMULA.

CAN YOU REVERSE ENGINEER IT TO MAKE A CURE?

I CAN TRY. WE'LL NEED ACCESS TO THE EQUIPMENT IN MORBIUS' LAB.

I HAVE BACKDOOR CODES. I CAN GET US IN--

UMM...THESE CREATURES ARE STILL SAFE, RIGHT?

IT'S OKAY, HECTOR. I THINK HE LIKES YOU. IN FACT...

...I THINK HE'S *MR. MODELL!*

*MAX?! WE HAVE TO FIX THIS!

LAB 6

DON'T WORRY. THIS'S GONNA BE EASIER THAN WE THOUGHT.

THERE ARE STILL SOME DOSES OF MORBIUS' CURE HERE TO WORK FROM--

AND ONE OF HIS HYPOONS.* WAIT. I GOT AN IDEA!

*HYPODERMIC HARPOONS -SCIENTIFIC STEVE

ALWAYSSS KNEW...

...I WAS FASSSTER...

...SSSTRONGER!

SWAP

AHH!

THOUGHT I WAS BETTER!

BUT NO!

THAT WOMAN--

--HE'LL SLICE HER OPEN UNLESS I--

ALL THE THINGSSS YOU HUMANSSS CAN FEEL, TOUCH, TASSSTE, ENJOY!

I WILL NEVER KNOW SSSUCH SSSPLENDOR AGAIN!

GNUH!

HOW I HATE YOU FOR IT!

WAK

EVERY LASSST ONE OF YOU!

OH, GOD! PLEASE...

...DON'T.

MARTHA?

RUN!

ALL OF YOU, JUST KEEP RUNNING AND DON'T LOOK BACK!

PTAM

THERE'S WATER ALL AROUND US. WITH HIS SPEED, THE LIZARD COULD RACE OFF THE DOCKS...

...SWIM AWAY, AND I'D NEVER CATCH HIM. BUT HE DOESN'T WANT THAT.

HE WANTS TO LASH OUT--TO *KILL* AS MANY PEOPLE AS HE CAN!

HYAK!

WEB

AND YOU, SSSPIDER!

HATE YOU--

--MOSST OF ALL!

SWAKK

IZON

NYPD

SPIDEY!

WHAT ABOUT "KEEP BACK" DO YOU NOT--?

USE THIS!

A HYPOON?! IS IT--?

LOADED WITH THE CURE.

BUT IT NEEDS A SONIC AGITATOR TO--

SLAPPED ONE ONTO THE HANDLE.

GOOD JOB!

THANKS!

NOW GO!

I GOT THIS!

ONE SHOT.

AND ONLY *ONE* PLACE IT HAS A PRAYER OF WORKING.

HIS BRAIN!

THE REPTILIAN PART OF HIS BRAIN.

AND THERE'S *NO* GUARANTEE IT'LL WORK.

IT *COULD* KILL HIM.

WILL YOU DO IT, PARKER?

WILL YOU FOREVER *CUT* ANOTHER'S SKEIN FROM THE GREAT *WEB OF LIFE?*

ALL THESE PEOPLE--STILL AROUND. IF I DON'T STOP HIM...

...HE'LL KILL THEM. I *KNOW IT.*

I SACRIFICED SABLE TO SAVE MILLIONS, BUT...

BUT *WHAT?* I WON'T RISK THE LIFE OF A *MONSTER* TO SAVE DOZENS?

I *HAVE* TO DO THIS.

IT'S DECIDED.

THISSS AGAIN?!

ARGHH!

CLUTCHH

SSSTUPID MAMMAL! AFTER ALL YOU'VE SSSEEN?

YOU SSSTILL THINK YOU CAN FIX ME?

THAT THERE'SSS SSSOMETHING HUMAN INSSSIDE?!

HERE! I'LL SHOW YOU THERE'SSS NOT!

WATCH ME DEVOUR--

MARTHA? BILLY? MARTHA?

MARTHA?!

BILLY?!

SO LET ME GET THIS STRAIGHT...

EVERY PERSON HERE. ALL THE ADULTS ARE MARTHA CONNORS.

AND ALL THE CHILDREN ARE BILLY. *THAT'S* WHAT YOU SEE?

SHUT UP, CONNORSSS!

SH-SH-SHUT UP!

AND *I'M* "CURT CONNORS"?

THAT GLIMMER OF A PAST LIFE...

...OF A MAN WHO KNEW RIGHT FROM WRONG.

NOT SSSEEING THISSS.

OF SOMEONE WHO WISHES HE NEVER BROUGHT THE LIZARD INTO THIS WORLD.

A PART OF YOU THAT ***WANTS*** ME TO END THIS.

THAT'S MAKING ME LOOK LIKE A ONE-ARMED MAN WITH ***NOTHING*** TO HIDE.

C'MON. LET'S TALK FOR ONCE. JUST THE TWO OF US.

IT'S OKAY. SEE? NOTHING UP MY SLEEVE.

SKRUKKCHH

ZHHHW

KK-IKK--

NO! I SHOULDN'T HAVE--

I'M SORRY! SAY SOMETHING!

LIZARD?

CONNORS?

SSSPIDER-MAN?

YES?

YOU FAILED.

NOT HUMAN.

SPIDEY!

WAY TO GO!

IT DIDN'T WORK. BUT IT TOOK THE FIGHT OUT OF HIM.

TAKES ME EVERY WEB-CARTRIDGE I'VE GOT TO KEEP HIM TIED UP.

AND IT TAKES S.H.I.E.L.D. AN HOUR TO CART HIM TO THE *RAFT.*

HE DOESN'T REALLY SAY MUCH.

BUT THE PRISON MEDICAL STAFF SAYS HE'LL LIVE.

I STOP BY AFTER HOURS JUST TO MAKE SURE HE'S OKAY.

I TOOK A RISK AND WENT TO A PLACE I NEVER WANT TO GO TO AGAIN.

OCTAVIUS, SMYTHE, AND THE SCUM THEY'VE GOT LOCKED UP HERE--

SPIDER-MAN! OVER HERE! IT'S DR. MORBIUS! THAT GIRL, SAJANI, DID SHE PULL THROUGH?

--I HAVE *NO IDEA* HOW THEY CAN LIVE WITH THEMSELVES WITH ALL THE BLOOD THEY MUST HAVE ON THEIR HANDS. BUT HONESTLY...

MORBIUS

...I DON'T CARE. THESE MEN ARE NOTHING TO ME.

PLEASE. I HAVE TO KNOW.

WHAT?

WHAT DO YOU WANT?! WHY ARE YOU HERE?!

NOTHING.

HE'S ALIVE! AND WELL. AND EATING BIG, PLUMP RATS.

GOOD. THAT WAS CLOSE

CLOSER THAN I EVER WANT TO GET.

WELL, THAT'S A WEIGHT OFF MY MIND...

SPIDER-MAN, WAIT. I--

NO! I MUSTN'T TELL HIM! NO ONE CAN EVER KNOW.

THE CURE WORKED. MY BRAIN--MY MIND'S RESTORED. AND I KNOW WHY I'M HERE...

IT WORKED.

FOR THE CHOICES I'VE MADE. FOR MARTHA. FOR BILLY.

MY NAME IS CURT CONNORS. AND *THIS* IS MY PRISON. MY PENANCE. MY HELL.

AND I DESERVE IT.

Horizon Labs.

HAVE WE DOUBLE-CHECKED?

YES. EVERYONE'S FINE.

WE'RE ALL BACK TO NORMAL. NO SIDE-EFFECTS.

PEOPLE ARE MAKING A LOT OF T-SHIRTS.

T-SHIRTS?

FOR THE ANNUAL *SOFTBALL GAME*. THIS YEAR IT'LL BE PEOPLE WHO TURNED INTO LIZARDS THIS SUMMER VERSUS EVERYONE WHO TURNED INTO SPIDERS LAST FALL.*

I HAVEN'T TURNED INTO ANYTHING.

GIVE IT TIME. IT'S ONLY MONDAY.

ASM #670

SO, WE FINALLY... GOT TO THE TONGUE STAGE?

AS LIZARDS.

YOU OKAY WITH THAT?

YEAH. I'VE BEEN IN...WEIRDER RELATIONSHIPS.

WELL, ONE THING'S BACK TO NORMAL.

YET *AGAIN* PARKER MISSED OUT ON ALL THE HEAVY LIFTING.

NOT JUST PARKER. MR. STONE'S ABSENT AS WELL.

HECTOR, IF YOU'D COME WITH ME, PLEASE.

WHAT'S THIS ABOUT?

I NEED YOU TO CHECK ME FOR...ANY REMAINING SCALES.

YOU KNOW, I COULD DO THAT AT HOME.

I KNOW.

I DIDN'T WANT TO DRAW ANY UNDUE ATTENTION...

I NEED YOU TO CONDUCT A PRIVATE INVESTIGATION.

DURING THIS LITTLE INCIDENT, MY OFFICE WAS RANSACKED.

YOU SURE? THIS COULD'VE BEEN A LIZARD-CREATURE ON A TEAR.

NO. SOMETHING VERY VALUABLE'S MISSING.

AND I NEED TO KNOW WHO TOOK IT...

"...AND WHY!"

THERE, MR. FISK. IT'S FINISHED.

Shadowland.
HEADQUARTERS OF WILSON FISK, THE KINGPIN OF CRIME.

THE FIRST OF THE NEW AND IMPROVED *SPIDER-JAMMERS* IS READY.

WITHIN A WEEK I CAN HAVE DOZENS AROUND SHADOWLAND-- AND IN ALL YOUR LOCATIONS THROUGHOUT THE CITY.

EXCELLENT, MR. STONE. KEEP UP THE GOOD WORK--

--AND I'M SURE WE CAN FIND A NICE PLACE FOR YOU IN OUR ORGANIZATION.

HM. SOMEBODY'S SHOOTIN' TO BE DADDY'S NEW FAVORITE. HUH, POINDEXTER?

NO, SIR. HOBGOBLIN NO LIKEY. GONNA HAVE TO DO SUMTHIN' ABOUT THAT.

Chelsea.
THE HOME OF JULIA CARPENTER, A.K.A. MADAME WEB.

NO. THIS IS WHAT I FORESAW. BUT SOMETHING'S WRONG HERE...

ALL OF THESE THREADS LEAD... THEY LEAD...

...TO DARKNESS.

THE WEB OF LIFE. EVERY POSSIBLE FUTURE. THEY'RE GONE.

THAT'S IMPOSSIBLE!

WAIT! THERE'S A FACE AT THE CENTER.

WHO IS THAT?

Delvadia.

DRUG CAPITAL OF CENTRAL AMERICA.

‹ANY OF YOU SURVIVE, YOU GO BACK, YOU TELL CALDERÓN, THE RED HAND, THE NINE BROTHERS, ALL OF 'EM...

‹...LET 'EM KNOW, THIS IS *MY* TERRITORY! MOVE PRODUCT THROUGH HERE AND YOU'RE *DEAD!*›

DEVIL-SPIDER!

TRANSLATED FROM SPANISH.

‹WHAT?! I'M BUSY.›

‹NEWS FROM AMERICA. YOU'LL WANT TO HEAR THIS.›

‹IT'S--IT'S ABOUT YOUR BROTHER.›

‹THE HOBGOBLIN? BUT IT'S NOT TIME YET.›

‹IF HE REACHES OUT TO ME, HE COULD TIP OUR HAND TO THE KINGPIN.›

‹BUT THAT'S JUST IT, BOSS. HE--HE HASN'T BEEN LYING LOW...›

‹HE *NEVER* BECAME THE HOBGOBLIN.›

WHAT?!

‹OUR MEN INSIDE THE AMERICAN POLICE... THEY FOUND HIS BODY.›

‹IT'S YOUR BROTHER... DANIEL KINGSLEY. HE'S BEEN DEAD FOR SOME TIME.›

‹SON OF A--›

‹SO SOME IMPOSTER HAS BEEN RUNNING AROUND IN BORROWED CLOTHES. MAKING A NAME FOR HIMSELF?›

‹IT'S A GOOD CON. HELL, I PRACTICALLY *INVENTED IT*. BUT I CAN'T LET THIS GO UNANSWERED.›

ARRANGE SOME TRANSPORT BACK TO AMERICA.

THIS *NEW* HOBGOBLIN BETTER WATCH OUT--

--BECAUSE HE'S ABOUT TO MEET **THE ORIGINAL.**

The End...For Now.

the AMAZING SPIDER-MAIL

SEND LETTERS TO:
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Been a nutty few weeks here in the Spidey office with Marvel creative retreats, vacations and lots of preparation for next month's 50th Anniversary issue taking all of our time.

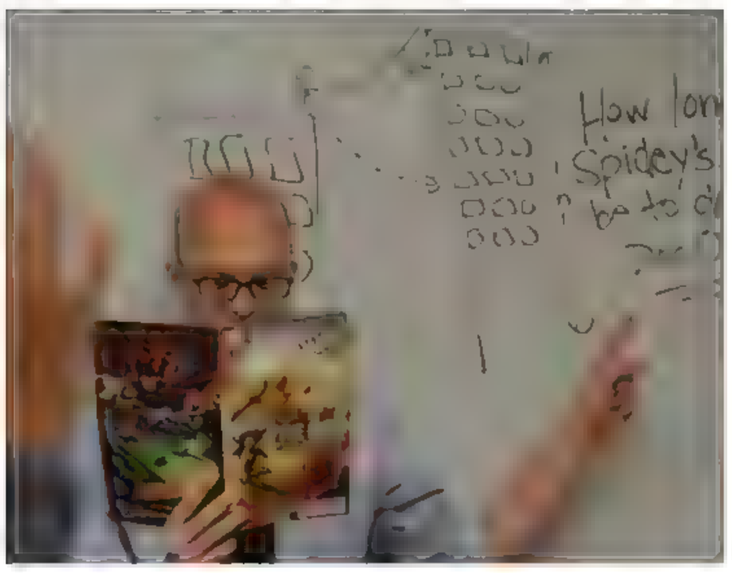
We've also had a very special guest into the office. Straight from HBO's outstanding drama (and one of this editor's favorite shows) "The Wire" Michael K. Williams dropped in with his son, Elijah. Michael's incredible work as Omar has made the character the most unforgettable in the history of television and we were very honored to have the lifelong Marvel fan tour the offices. It was one of those days where you're reminded that this is a pretty cool place to work.

Because we've skipped a few columns recently, we're very backlogged with entries into our ongoing feature: "HEY, I'M READING SPIDEY COMICS AT WORK!" (or HIRSCAW!). So let's take this page and get to a few of you. First up, a couple guys working hard at the most important job of all:

Dear Spider-Mail,

So I'm writing in to continue providing entries to the "Hey, I'm Reading Spidey Comics at Work!" series you've been running over the past several months. You see, I'm a high school teacher who has an almost complete collection of the entire Amazing Spider-Man and who draws a lot of his inspiration from a character like Peter Parker.

Reading Peter's stories as a teacher (and now as a scientist at Horizon) I was always compelled to give back to the community in the same way he has always done. So here is a picture of me doing what I do best:



I'm always looking for tips and advice hidden in the pages of the newest issue. In The Amazing Spider-Man #684 it mentioned something about radioactive isotopes (science) and a whole lot about the Sahara (history). Thanks to the wonderful work of the whole Spider-team I always seem to have the cheat sheet when it comes to teaching a class.

Now if only I could pry my nose out of a comic and get back to actually addressing my wonderful students!

Excelsior!

Dan Gvozden
Severna Park, Maryland

Dear Steve,

Enclosed is a picture of my class of 10 and 11 year olds enjoying the many adventures of Spidey and the wider Marvel Universe. We are from South Street Primary School in Gateshead, North East of England- a long way from Peter Parker's New York City!

My students have been taking part in the Stan Lee Excelsior Award aimed at igniting a love for reading through comic books. As you can see they are all delving deeply into the fresh adventures that Marvel Comics provides every single week and absolutely loving it!

Excelsior from England!
John Archer
Gateshead, England

Man, I wish I had teachers like Dan and John when I was in school! I wasn't even allowed to say the word comic book. Many thanks to both of you for sharing your love of reading with a new generation of Marvel fans. And please tell each of them to go make great comics of their own and most importantly to.... stay off my lawn!!!

Stephen,

Greetings, truest of believers! It is I, Christopher Daniels! Perhaps you know me as the New Face of IMPACT WRESTLING (airing live on Thursday nights on Spike TV at 8pm EST) and one half of the World Tag Team Champions of the World (not redundant due to being two planets' worth of great) along with my partner, the "Physical Fascination" Frankie Kazarian. And I'm writing this letter to let you know why we enjoy reading SPIDER-MAN at work!

First of all, both Frankie & I are Marvel fans from all the way back, Frankie enjoying Hulk and Wolverine stories, while I have followed the X-Men's adventures ever since two cats named Claremont and Byrne made history!

But we both feel a certain kinship to Peter Parker and his web-singing alter-ego. Partly because as kids we were both bullied for our superior intellects, but mostly because, like Peter, our lives were changed forever on a certain fateful day. Where Peter was bitten by a radioactive spider, gaining the proportionate strength of a spider & the ability to climb walls, Frankie & I once shook hands with Superstar Billy Graham after he was accidentally exposed to nuclear radiation as he drove from New York City to Newark, NJ for a live event.

It was soon after that we realized we had not only the technical wrestling prowess of ten men, but also the incredible charisma so evident upon first meeting us! It was these super-powers that have carried us to the top of the wrestling world, and these powers that make us enjoy the exploits of a certain web-slinging phenomenon!

We want to say thanks for all the entertainment over the years, and that we look forward to more each and every month! (Also, we would be remiss if we didn't thank our manager and trainer, the "Human Highlight Reel" Ben Morse, who I believe moonlights for Marvel.com!)

Best Wishes,
Christopher Daniels

Chris, like most well-read and cultured men and women, we are absolutely glued to Impact Wrestling every week. It's like the brilliance of Schopenhauer and the intellect of Kierkegaard matched with the immediate gratification of a violent clothesline to the neck.

Just a side comment though...while you and Frankie look intimidating to a fresh-faced emotional adolescent such as myself, in a real match my money would be on the dogged and daring Ellie Pyle!

Do you dare step into the ring and face an assistant editor who has trained weekly to face the ancient dangers inherent to the DREADED DEADLINE DOOM! Yeah, I thought not!

All the room I got. See you next week for the issue you've been waiting 50 years for! It's the extra-sized Amazing Spider-Man Anniversary issue by Dan, Humberto, Victor, Edgar and Chris.

Viva Sign-offs!
Simperin' Steve
7/22/12

NEXT IN ASM #692:

MARVEL COMICS

SPIDER-MAN

MAY '96

MONSTER MASH!

APPROVED BY THE COMICS CODE AUTHORITY

UNTOLD TALES OF SPIDER-MAN

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*Bitten by a radioactive spider, high school student **Peter Parker** gained the spider's powers, and soon became the costumed crimefighter the entire world would one day come to know as **Spider-Man!** In the early days of his career, when his amazing powers were still new to him, the teenaged Spider-Man struggled to learn about himself and his abilities, while trying to lead a **normal life!** It would **not** be easy...*

STAN LEE PRESENTS... UNTOLD TALES OF SPIDER-MAN!

CRY... LIZARD!

DIE, SPIDER-MAN! DIE!

CRASH

MONSTERS, MUTATION AND MAYHEM, FROM:

KURT BUSIEK WRITER

RON FRENZ AND BRETT BREEDING GUEST ARTISTS

RICHARD STARKINGS AND COMICRAFT LETTERING

STEVE MATTSSON COLORS

TOM BREVOORT EDITOR

BOB HARRAS EDITOR IN CHIEF

HOW DO I GET MYSELF INTO THESE THINGS?!

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YOU DEFEATED ME BY *TRICKERY* BEFORE --

-- BUT THIS TIME I WON'T GIVE YOU THE *CHANCE!*

I EAT RIGHT -- I BRUSH MY TEETH REGULARLY -- I TRY TO BE A NICE GUY --

*IN FACT, IT WAS TRYING TO BE A NICE GUY THAT **STARTED** ALL THIS...*

*AUNT MAY WAS JUST BACK FROM HER **FLORIDA VACATION,** AND OF COURSE, I WAS LATE MEETING HER TRAIN...*

AUNT MAY!

AUNT MAY, OVER *HERE!*

SORRY I'M *LATE* -- I GOT CAUGHT UP IN --

SAY, YOU LOOK *GREAT!* HOPE YOU DIDN'T OVEREXTEND YOURSELF WITH TOO MUCH *DEEP-SEA FISHING,* THOUGH...

YOU'RE SO *SWEET,* PETER.

BUT THE TRAIN TICKET -- IT WAS SO *EXPENSIVE!* I'D PLANNED TO DRIVE HOME WITH THE *ABBOTS,* BUT THEY DECIDED TO VISIT RELATEVES IN GEORGIA...

IT'S OKAY, AUNT MAY. WE'RE FINE. DON'T THINK *TWICE* ABOUT IT.

BUT SHE WAS RIGHT --

AND THEN I SAW HIM.

HUH? DR. *CONNORS?*

*HE WASN'T THE ANSWER TO MY **MONEY** PROBLEMS...*

...BUT HE COULD MAYBE HELP ME OUT WITH A DIFFERENT SITUATION.

TURNED OUT HE WAS HERE TO GIVE A SERIES OF LECTURES ON HERPETOLOGY AT EMPIRE STATE UNIVERSITY, SO I SWUNG BY HIS TEMPORARY LAB...

PSST! DOC! HEY, DOC!

SPIDER-MAN?

I WAS WONDERING IF YOU COULD DO ME A FAVOR, DOC...

SPIDER-MAN, AFTER THE WAY YOU SAVED ME WHEN I TURNED MYSELF INTO...THAT CREATURE, YOU COULD ASK ME FOR THE MOON, AND I'D DO MY BEST.

IF NOT FOR YOU, I'D HAVE LOST...

...I'D HAVE LOST EVERYTHING THAT MATTERS...

YOU'RE A PAL, DOC. HERE'S WHAT I WANT TO DO...

NO! SCIENTISTS... WITH NEEDLES! THEY LOCK ME UP... NEVER LET ME OUT!

DOC CONNORS HAD DEVELOPED AN EXPERIMENTAL SERUM, BASED ON LIZARD REGENERATION, TO TRY TO REGROW HIS AMPUTATED ARM.

THE SERUM TURNED HIM INTO THE LIZARD -- BUT I FIGURED WE'D TAKEN CARE OF THAT --

-- AND SINCE HE HAD EXPERIENCE WITH ANIMAL TRANSFORMATIONS, HE MIGHT BE ABLE TO HELP BATWING --

-- A KID I'D BEEN SORTA HELPING OUT, WHO HAD A SIMILAR PROBLEM.

LOOK, BATWING -- JUST COME AND MEET THE GUY. HE DOESN'T BITE, I PROMISE!

YOU DON'T EVEN HAVE TO COME ALL THE WAY INSIDE --

"-- YOU CAN STAY OUT ON THE WINDOW SILL!"

SCARED...

...SCARED...

IT TOOK DAYS TO CONVINCE HIM TO TAKE A CHANCE...

...AND LONGER AFTER THAT BEFORE HE LET US TAKE A BLOOD SAMPLE.

STILL, EVENTUALLY...

WELL, THIS IS INTERESTING. THE MUTAGENIC FACTORS IN HIS BLOOD --

-- THEY'RE REACTING POSITIVELY TO THE TEST SERUM...

WHAT?!

YOU... CURE ME?

YOU CURE ME?!

Ah --!

KSSH

Oh, NO! Oh, PLEASE -- NO!

WHAT IS IT, DOC?

I CUT MY HAND -- LET THE SERUM INTO MY BLOODSTREAM! AND IT'S BASED ON MY OLD SERUM --

-- THE ONE THAT --

-- TURNED ME INTO --

-THE LIZARD!

THE ORIGINAL CHANGE MUST HAVE LEFT HIM VULNERABLE -- FOR HIM TO HAVE TRANSFORMED SO FAST --

OBSERVE, SPIDER-MAN!

MY CLAWS -- AND MY *UNPARALLELED STRENGTH* -- ALLOW ME TO HALT MY DESCENT, AND LEAVE ME FREE --

-- NOT THAT KNOWING THAT MAKES THINGS ANY MORE COMFORTABLE -- !

UHH!

SWAT

-- TO *DEAL* WITH YOU AS YOU SO RICHLY *DESERVE!*

NO! DON'T HURT... *FRIEND!*

I... *STOP* YOU!

STAY *AWAY,* BOY! THIS IS NO AFFAIR OF *YOURS!*

BATWING, STAY *BACK!* YOU DON'T KNOW HOW FAST HE IS -- HOW *STRONG!*

I SAID *STAY AWAY!*

BATWING, I'M *ALL RIGHT!* SEE?

BUT IT'S TOO LATE.

UKH!

LET HIM GO, LIZARD! THIS IS BETWEEN YOU AND ME!

HE MUST LEARN HIS LESSON, SPIDER-MAN! A BOY MUST LEARN THE CONSEQUENCES OF HIS MISTAKES, OR HE'LL NEVER GROW UP!

HE MUST LEARN --

-- AND SO MUST YOU!

MY SPIDER-SENSE GOES OFF -- FOR ALL THE GOOD IT DOES.

THE CAR'S WAY TOO BIG -- AND MOVING TOO FAST TO DODGE.

OFF!

I CAN'T SEE A THING, AND BY THE TIME I DRAG MYSELF CLEAR --

-- IT LOOKS LIKE PROFESSOR CONNORS'S "LESSON FOR THE DAY" IS OVER.

H-HE'S GONE...

PULLED UP MANHOLE COVER...RAN INSIDE! HE GOT AWAY...

MY FAULT... MY FAULT...

NO. IT'S MY FAULT.

-- FOR ASKING DR. CONNORS TO TAKE SUCH A DANGEROUS RISK IN THE FIRST PLACE. I STEW ABOUT IT ALL NIGHT, AND IN THE MORNING...

IT'S SO GOOD TO BE HOME, PETER!

TO CELEBRATE, I'VE MADE YOUR FAVORITE BREAKFAST -- WHEAT CAKES!

... I FIND SOMETHING ELSE TO STEW ABOUT.

AUNT MAY PUTS A BRAVE FACE ON EVERYTHING -- BUT HARD AS THINGS ARE FOR ME, THEY MUST BE FAR WORSE FOR HER.

SHE SHOULD BE ENJOYING HER GOLDEN YEARS...

... NOT THINKING ABOUT HOW MUCH IS LEFT IN THE BANK ACCOUNT EVERY TIME SHE COOKS A MEAL.

WHEN I GOT THESE POWERS, I THOUGHT I'D BE ON EASY STREET -- I THOUGHT I'D BE ABLE TO TAKE CARE OF AUNT MAY --

-- AND UNCLE BEN, GOD REST HIS SOUL.

BUT INSTEAD, I FOUL UP EVERYTHING I TOUCH. AUNT MAY -- DOC CONNORS --

SKRANG

EVERYTHING!

3

Uh...

NOBODY SAW THAT.

TELL ME NOBODY SAW THAT.

BY THE TIME I GET TO SCHOOL, I'M DEEPER IN MY FUNK. I'M THE ONLY PERSON WHO MAKES WALLOWING IN MISERY A HOBBY...

HEY, PARKER! WHY THE LONG FACE? A COUPLE OF THIRD-GRADERS BEAT YOU UP AND TAKE YOUR LUNCH MONEY?

NO, WAIT, I GOT IT -- YOUR FAVORITE TEAM, THE BOSTON BOOKWORMS, JUST TANKED IN THE CALCULUS BOWL AND YOU'RE ALL BROKEN UP ABOUT IT!

THAT'S IT, FLASH! I'M TIRED OF YOU FLAPPIN' YOUR GUMS JUST TO REMIND YOURSELF YOU'RE STILL BREATHING!

Oh YEAH? YOU GONNA DO SOMETHING ABOUT IT, BIG SHOT --

-- OR ARE YOU GOING TO WEASEL OUT, LIKE YOU ALWAYS DO?

I'M ON THE VERGE OF FORGETTING I HAVE A SECRET IDENTITY TO PROTECT, AND PUTTING HIM THROUGH THE WALL --

-- WHEN AN EXCITED MURMUR RUNS THROUGH THE KIDS --

Huh?

WHA-A-AT?!

-- AND NOT BECAUSE OF US.

TINY, YOUR ARM--!

WHAT HAPPENED?!

IT'S NOTHING.

IT DOESN'T MATTER.

WHADDYA MEAN IT'S NOTHING, BIG GUY? WE NEED YOU ON THE TEAM -- AND WITH A BUSTED WING, YOU'LL BE OUT OF ACTION ALL SEASON!

MAN, TINY -- YOU GOTTA TAKE BETTER CARE OF YOURSELF!

I COULD TAKE A PRETTY GOOD GUESS AT WHO BROKE TINY'S ARM --

HEY! WHAT THE--?!

I SAID IT WAS NOTHING AND IT WAS NOTHING, YOU GOT THAT?

NOW DROP IT!

SURE, SURE, WHATEVER YOU SAY!

-- ESPECIALLY SINCE I'D SEEN HIS FATHER YELLING AT HIM, AND HEARD SOMETHING HEAVY GETTING SLAMMED AROUND AT HIS HOUSE.

SHEESH! YOU EXPRESS A LITTLE CONCERN FOR A GUY...

MIDTOWN FOOTBALL

TINY'S FATHER HAD A PRETTY PRIMITIVE WAY OF MOTIVATING HIS SON.

YOUR DAD'S AN ENGINEER, RIGHT, JASON?

I REMEMBER YOU SAID HE SHOWED YOU HOW TO MAKE SOME OF THOSE COOL PROPS WE USED FOR THE SCHOOL PLAY LAST YEAR...

Uh, SURE, SALLY -- BUT HOW DOES THAT CONNECT TO WHAT YOU WERE SAYING ABOUT SPIDER-MAN?

BUT WHAT AM I SUPPOSED TO DO ABOUT IT? I CAN'T EXACTLY PUT ON MY SPIDEY-SUIT AND GO BEAT UP TINY'S FATHER...

Oh, THAT REMINDS ME! PETER, YOU'RE SMART, SO TELL ME --

-- DO YOU THINK SPIDER-MAN WOULD BE SO FAMOUS IF HE DIDN'T HAVE HIS PICTURE IN THE BUGLE ALL THE TIME?

WELL, Uh -- HE USED TO BE ON T.V. --

-- BUT NO, I THINK IT'S THE BUGLE'S CRUSADE AGAINST HIM THAT KEEPS HIM IN THE PUBLIC SPOTLIGHT. WHY?

DON'T EVEN ***ASK,*** PARKER. SHE'LL JUST START TALKING ABOUT THE ***GYM TEAM*** -- OR HOW FAMOUS ***MOZART*** WAS WHEN HE WAS OUR AGE.

IT'S A ***GIRL*** THING, I THINK.

MIDTOWN GYMNASTICS

*SALLY'S QUESTION JUST REMINDS ME OF HOW **ROUGH** I HAVE IT AS SPIDEY -- AND HOW AS PETER PARKER, NEWS PHOTOG, I HELP MAKE IT **WORSE.***

*BUT I THINK ABOUT TINY, AND I KNOW IT'S NOT **THAT** BAD.*

AT LEAST MY PROBLEMS ARE MY DOING, AND IF I MESS UP --

-- WELL, IT'S UP TO ME TO DO SOMETHING ABOUT IT!

DAILY BUGLE

STILL NO SIGN OF ***BETTY?***

NOT A WORD. LOOK, KID, MAYBE SHE'S JUST NOT COMING BACK FROM HER ***LEAVE OF ABSENCE*** --

-- I KNOW IF I WORKED HERE AS ANYTHING BUT A TEMP, ***I'D*** BE THINKING ABOUT CHANGING MY NAME AND RUNNING OFF TO OUTER MONGOLIA...

GEEZ -- I HOPE NOTHING'S HAPPENED TO HER--!

FIB EX

I WONDER WHERE SHE COULD BE?

*SHE WAS IN SOME KIND OF TROUBLE WITH THE **ENFORCERS** -- BUT THE ENFORCERS ARE IN JAIL NOW!*

*SURELY WHATEVER WAS **GOING ON**, SHE COULD COME BACK NOW -- OR SHE COULD **CALL** ME!*

PARKER!

WHAT'RE *YOU* DOING HERE? IF YOU'RE SNIFFING AROUND FOR A *HANDOUT* --

ACTUALLY, Mr. JAMESON, I WAS HOPING FOR A SMALL ADVANCE -- JUST TO TIDE MY AUNT AND ME OVER UNTIL --

DOES THIS LOOK LIKE A *CHARITY WARD*, PARKER? TODDLE OFF TO THE MALT SHOP, OR WHEREVER YOU *TEENAGERS* GO --

-- AND DON'T COME BACK TILL YOU HAVE SOME *PHOTOS* FOR ME!

WAIT, WAIT -- *HOLD IT* A SEC! WHAT IF I COULD GET YOU PICTURES OF... THE *LIZARD?*

THERE *IS* NO LIZARD. HE'S A *MYTH* -- I PROVED IT.

BUT -- WHAT IF HE *WAS* REAL? AND WHAT IF HE WAS IN *NEW YORK* --

-- AND THE BUGLE HAD *EXCLUSIVE PHOTOS--?*

LOOK, PARKER.

IF THERE *WAS* A LIZARD, AND IF HE *WAS* IN NEW YORK, THEN OF *COURSE* I'D BUY PHOTOS OF HIM. I'D PAY *TOP DOLLAR.*

BUT THERE ISN'T AND HE'S NOT, SO UNTIL YOU'VE *GOT* SOMETHING FOR ME --

-- QUIT *WASTING MY TIME* WITH *FAIRY TALES!*

IT'S A *DEAL,* Mr. J.

I HATE THE IDEA OF PROFITING OFF OF DOC CONNORS' PROBLEMS --

-- BUT IF I COULD HELP HIM AND TAKE CARE OF AUNT MAY AT THE SAME TIME...

OFFICE

-- POSSIBLE SUPERHUMANS INVOLVED!

SEE? COME ON, BATMING --

-- ALL UNITS, CALLING ALL UNITS! BRONX ZOO REPORTING A BREAK-IN AT THE REPTILE HOUSE --

RELAX, BATMING -- WE'LL FIND HIM.

HOW EASY CAN IT BE FOR A MAN-SIZED LIZARD WITH A ROTTEN TEMPER TO HIDE, ANYWAY?

MY FAULT... MY FAULT...

GOT AWAY...

I STOP BY DR. CONNORS' LAB AND WHIP UP A BATCH OF THE ANTIDOTE I USED THE FIRST TIME I FOUGHT HIM.

BATMING'S WAITING, AND HE WANTS TO HELP LOOK --

-- BUT IT'S LIKE THE LIZARD'S JUST VANISHED INTO THIN AIR.

-- LET'S TRAVEL!

THERE'S NO SIGN OF THE LIZARD AT THE ZOO --

-- UNLESS, OF COURSE, YOU COUNT A STEEL DOOR TORN OFF ITS HINGES LIKE IT WAS CARDBOARD!

REPTILE HOUSE

WE CAN'T LET THE *POLICE* GET THE LIZARD! HE'S GOT A FAMILY!

911

911

BUT WE GOTTA STAY *QUIET!* HALF THE TIME THE COPS DON'T HAVE MUCH USE FOR ME -- AND THE OTHER HALF THEY *HATE MY GUTS!*

YOU IN THE *REPTILE HOUSE!*

WE HAVE YOU *SURROUNDED* -- COME OUT WITH YOUR *HANDS UP!*

WHADDYA THINK, BILL? THE NIGHT WATCHMAN ON THE *SAUCE* --

-- OR HE REALLY *DID* SEE A GIANT ALLIGATOR WEARIN' CLOTHES?

I GUESS WE'RE GONNA HAVE TO SNEAK PAST THEM...

NO!

OVER THERE... *NEAR SEWER!*

"I *SEE* IT, BATWING! REPTILES -- FREED BY THE LIZARD, NO DOUBT! AND WHEREVER *THEY'RE* HEADED --

"-- THAT'S WHERE WE'LL FIND OL' SCALY *HIMSELF!*"

IT'S GOTTA BE THIS WAY -- IT'S A REGULAR *REPTILE HIGHWAY,* ALL GOING IN THE SAME DIRECTION!

DON'T *LIKE* IT DOWN HERE! WET... DARK...

...AND *SPOOKY!*

THAT AIN'T THE *HALF* OF IT!

ALL THESE GUYS LOOK PRETTY *HARMLESS* -- BUT MY SPIDER-SENSE IS JANGLING TO BEAT THE --

WHOAA!

I DO MY BEST TO KEEP THE GATORS OFF BATWING BUT WE BOTH LOSE OUR FOOTING, AND --

SPLOG!

MONSTERS!

AAAAH!

THE STORM SEWER DRAINS INTO SOME KIND OF *UNDERGROUND CAVERN,* DANK AND MOSSY --

SPIDER-MAN!

SPIDER-MAN!

-- AN APPROPRIATE PLACE --

RELAX, BATWING -- I'VE GOT YOU!

THWIPP

-- WE GOT TO SOLID GROUND!

THANK YOU, SPIDER-MAN...

... WE SAFE NOW!

I DON'T KNOW IF I'D GO THAT FAR!

-- FOR LIZARDS.

SNAP SNAP

AND I THINK IT'S ABOUT TIME --

SPIDER-MAN! AGAIN YOU HOUND ME!

ALLIGATORS IN THE SEWERS, LIZZIE?

ISN'T THAT A LITTLE... CLICHÉ?

BAH! SEE IF YOU THINK IT'S STILL SO FUNNY --

-- WHEN I GIVE AN ARMY OF REPTILES MY SERUM AND USE THEM TO CRUSH HUMANITY AND CLAIM THE EARTH AS OUR OWN!

Oh, BA-ROTHER!

I TELL YOU *WHAT*, LIZ. HOW ABOUT *BATWING* HERE CLAIMS EARTH FOR THE BATS, AND I DO IT FOR THE *BUGS*?

WE COULD *SHARE* --

-- ALTERNATE *DAYS* OR SOMETHING!

I MAKE SURE BATWING CAN'T SEE ME WEBBING MY AUTOMATIC CAMERA INTO PLACE. I MAY NEED TO GET PICTURES OF THIS --

-- BUT I DON'T NEED HIM FIGURING OUT WHY!

SIMMER DOWN AND *THINK*, DOC!

-- AND ALL THEY WANT IS FOR YOU TO RETURN TO THEM *SAFE* AND *SOUND*.

A *SON* -- A WIFE--?

I --

-- *NO!* YOU'RE TRYING TO CONFUSE ME -- *TRICK* ME --

ACTUALLY, DOC --

-- RIGHT NOW I'D SETTLE FOR KNOCKING YOU OUT!

KRAK!

YOU DON'T WANT TO CRUSH HUMANITY -- UNDER ALL THOSE SCALES, YOU *ARE* HUMAN! YOU HAVE A *WIFE* WHO LOVES YOU --

-- A SON WHO *NEEDS* YOU --

I'D FORGOTTEN HOW HARD HIS SKIN IS -- IT'S LIKE PUNCHING A STEEL WALL!

KSSSH

BAH! YOU CAN'T *HURT* ME, WHILE I --

AND THEN WE HEAR IT --

AAAAAAA

Huh?!

THE BOY!

"THE BOY IS IN DANGER!"

N-NO!

STAY B-BACK --!

I DON'T STOP TO NOTICE THAT THE LIZARD EVEN CARES. THERE'S NO TIME FOR THAT --

HANG ON, BATWING --

-- YOU'RE GONNA BE FINE!

WELL DONE, SPIDER-MAN. YOU'VE SAVED HIM. BUT IN DOING SO, YOU'VE TURNED YOUR BACK ON THE LIZARD --

THWIPP THWIPP

SKK SKK

-- THE KID'S GOT NO ROOM TO FLY, AND THEY'RE ALMOST ON HIM --

UHH!

-- AND THAT'S A FATAL ERROR!

HAHAHA!

AND ONCE YOU LIE *BROKEN* ON THE ROCKS, THERE'LL BE NO ONE TO --

NO! DON'T *HURT* HIM!

HE'S... MY *ONLY* *FRIEND*...

...ONLY ONE... EVER *NICE* TO ME!

PLEASE... DON'T *HURT* HIM...

PLEASE...

...*DADDY*?

DID BATWING KNOW WHAT HE WAS SAYING? HAD HE HEARD ME TALKING ABOUT THE LIZARD'S SON, AND HEARD THE WAY IT RATTLED HIM?

WAS HE JUST SCARED AND ALONE, AND WISHING FOR HIS OWN FATHER -- ANOTHER SCIENTIST, WHO'D DIED IN A CAVE LIKE THIS?

I GUESS IT DOESN'T MATTER.

"*DADDY*?" I... WHAT...

...BUH...

...BILLY?

WHAT MATTERS IS --

HOLD THAT *THOUGHT*, DOC...

NO... I...

...BUT...

...WE'LL BRING YOU THE *REST* OF THE WAY.

-- THAT IT WORKED.

I...

...I...

...I'M... I'M BACK!

AND THAT'S PRETTY MUCH THE END OF IT.

DOC CONNORS STILL THOUGHT HE MIGHT BE ABLE TO CURE BATWING -- AND BATWING FIGURED THE DOC KNOWS WHAT IT FEELS LIKE TO BE A MONSTER --

-- SO WHEN CONNORS HEADS BACK TO FLORIDA, BATWING GOES WITH HIM --

-- AND EVERYTHING'S SETTLED...

-- EXCEPT ONE LAST THING...

RRRINGG

HELLO? PARKER RESIDENCE.

JONAH JAMESON, PARKER. I'VE BEEN HEARING POLICE REPORTS ABOUT SOME GIANT REPTILE IN THE BRONX A FEW DAYS AGO --

-- AND I WAS WONDERING ABOUT THOSE PICTURES YOU MENTIONED --

I WISH I HAD SOMETHING FOR YOU, Mr. J.

BUT YOU WERE RIGHT AGAIN -- IT WAS A HOAX. AS FAR AS I CAN TELL, THERE IS NO SUCH CREATURE AS THE LIZARD.

NOT ANY MORE, ANYWAY --

-- AND HOPEFULLY NEVER AGAIN. I JUST CAN'T BRING MYSELF TO MESS UP DOC CONNORS'S CHANCE FOR A NORMAL LIFE --

-- AUNT MAY AND I WILL JUST HAVE TO FIND ANOTHER WAY --

THE PLACE PIGALLE, PARIS.

<MEN.>

<THEY ARE SUCH FOOLS... AND SO EASILY DEFEATED. AND WHERE IS THE CHALLENGE IN THAT?>

<I HAVE PITTED MYSELF AGAINST EVERYTHING THIS CITY HAS TO OFFER... AND I GROW BORED, RESTLESS.>

<I NEED A NEW CHALLENGE.>

<PERHAPS...?

<...PERHAPS NEW YORK...>

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